

Saint Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church

May 2021 Newsletter

ST. MM RESUMES IN-PERSON SERVICES, WITH LIMITATIONS

On Easter Sunday our congregation gathered for the first time in over a year, due to pandemic restrictions. The organ music rang out, and a choir of four, masked and properly spaced, made joyful music. Tessa Fravel accompanied on her violin. We also gathered April 25th with sixteen in attendance.

In-person services will continue May 9, Mother's Day, and May 23, The Day of Pentecost. All Diocesan protocols will be observed. Please plan to attend and take Holy Communion and enjoy renewed fellowship.

There will be virtual services May 2, and May 16. Watch for a link.



Tim Burgess continues to inspire and amuse us with the sign on Seven Lakes Drive. Thank you, Tim.

Prayer List

Our church-wide prayer list, which is updated weekly, is being maintained by Phyllis Marion. If you have prayer requests, please contact Phyllis, via email, by Friday noon so that an up-dated list can be sent out late Friday or early Saturday. Also, please keep Phyllis advised when it is time to remove names from the list. We thank Phyllis for faithfully attending to this task. jaymar41@earthlink.net

MAY CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Every Tuesday Morning – Healing & Intercessory Prayer, 11:00 a.m., from home. Contact Phyllis Marion for a prayer list.

May 2 – Virtual service, The Rev. Ken Kroohs, Officiant. You will receive a link. Also to be posted on the website

May 9 – In-person service, 9:30 a.m. Protocols observed

May 16 – Virtual service – You will receive a link. Also to be posted on website

May 23 – In-person service, 9:30 a.m. – The Day of Pentecost. Remember to wear red. Protocols observed

*May 12- Vestry Meeting, in-person, 3:00 p.m. **All Are Welcome! Protocols observed***

*May 27– **Articles for June Newsletter are due. Contact Phyllis Olson.***



Those celebrating May Birthdays:

*Ray McClung
Brenda Yarish
Ernie Martin
Peggy Loomis
Mel Keiffer
Donna McClung*



Those celebrating May Wedding Anniversaries:

*Mary Ann and Ed Matthewson
Julia and David Poisson
Crystal and Jared Fravel*



A Message from the Vicar

Reflections on Joy: I will never forget the joy I had when I first fell in love with Ellen. It was a time when every expression of love brought with it fullness and satisfaction. I never felt more fully alive. But like every human experience, we have had to work on keeping that love alive and growing. Therefore, each day, I try to do at least one thing to make my wife's life a little easier and better. Most often, it doesn't seem like much, but those acts of thoughtful kindness are meaningful, and they make a big difference.

I think the Apostle John had something like this in mind when he wrote his first epistle and included in his opening, "We write these things to make our joy complete" (1 John 1:9). The joy he speaks about is a fruit of the Spirit. Fruit is something that often comes with careful cultivation, forethought, and diligence. It happens in our lives spiritually when we take the time to be mindful of God's presence or when we take the time to let him speak to our hearts and strengthen our faith. But this joy is also perfected and made complete as we live in community and experience God's love together.

When John speaks about making our joy complete, he uses a word that is also translated, "to fill up."¹ It depicts a life that is abundant and full. So let's do our part to allow this joy to overflow in small expressions of love as we serve the Lord with gladness each and every day.

¹ Strong's Concordance, #44137 "pléroó" (play-ro'-o)



Sunday, April 25th, John and Pete "in the counting house, counting all the money!"



Sunday, April 25th, Sherol and Suzanne in proper shield and mask 😊

Sadly, Suzanne and Ed Clarke will be moving to Florida within the next few weeks. We will miss them, and we wish them Godspeed as they move to be near family.

New address:
22387 Barberee Dr.
Crestview, FL 32536

OUTREACH

St. MM's donations for the "1000 Days of Love" totaled \$750. This money will be used toward the establishment of community-led and sustained programs to improve nutrition, health care, mental and emotional stimulation and nurturing during the critical first 1,000 days in a child's life. Bishop Curry asked for \$15 from each member to accomplish this important task. St. MM met the challenge. We thank Phyllis Marion for bringing this project to our attention following the fall Diocesan Convention.

Regarding the charity golf tournament earnings, the vestry voted to apply \$2,000 to the Vietnam Vets and \$1,000 to Military Missions.



Kim Doolittle donates his service to tax prep for **AARP Foundation's TaxAide**. This project, recently completed, involved Kim along with three other volunteers who worked at St. MM assisting individuals with tax filings.

Linda Lindner continues to lead the parish in outreach to Seven Lakes Assisted Living and Memory Care. Parish women are currently creating small comfort quilts for the Memory Care residents. A planned work-day will be announced to assemble and adorn these quilts. (Contact Linda, 315-945-1325 or Julia 673-0425 for more information). In April, Linda Rinaldi sent forty-three Easter greeting cards, one to each resident in that facility.

The Men's Breakfast Group has announced a project to build a small deck for Tally Bandy at her Whispering Pines home. Work will begin when the project has been approved.



The Olsons paid a visit to Barb and Mel Keiffer on Barb's birthday. Toby joined the celebration.

Vestry members continue to make telephone calls to fellow church members during our time of isolation which, though now winding down, still keeps some parishioners confined



God Be in Me

God be in my head and in my understanding;
God be in my eyes and in my looking;
God be in my mouth and in my speaking;
God be in my heart and in my thinking;
God be at my end and at my departing.
Sarum Primer, 16th century



WEATHER

Whether the weather be fine,
Or whether the weather be not,
Whether the weather be cold,
Or whether the weather be hot,
We'll weather the weather
Whatever the weather,
Whether we like it or not. *Anon*

HAVE YOU VISITED STMM'S
WEBSITE LATELY? GO THERE.
YOU'LL LIKE IT.

Website: <http://stmm.dionc.org>



For lo, the winter is past;
The snow is over and gone.
The flowers appear on the earth.
The time of singing has come.



Vestry Members

Senior Warden – Bob Rinaldi
Junior Warden – Julia Poisson
Charlotte Kennedy, Phyllis Marion, Linda
Lindner, Skip Ragland, and John Sapp

Treasurer- David Poisson

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*A Mission of the Episcopal Diocese of North
Carolina*

