

Saint Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church

September 2022 Newsletter

WIDENING OF SEVEN LAKES DRIVE PRESENTS CONCERNS

Kim Doolittle continues to serve as our liaison with the State as the widening of Seven Lakes Drive affects our church. An offer from the State to compensate ST.MM for the loss of a portion of our parking lot has been made and the Vestry has voted to accept the offer.

Kim presented the settlement offer to the Diocese Standing Committee on Thursday, August 18, 2022. The acceptance remains to be approved by the Diocese.

Vestry members have expressed their appreciation to Kim for his leadership in obtaining a favorable settlement. Information as to when and how the Church will be affected by the Highway 211 widening project will be made known soon, along with plans for its impact on ST. MM.



September Birthdays

Samantha Parsons (2)
Bill Lindner. (20)
Martha Ragland. (23)
Connie Windham (25)
Phyllis Olson. (30)
Valerie Doolittle. (30)
Bishop David Bane (11)



September Anniversaries

Brenda and Bill Yarish. (5)
Fr. Stephen and Ellen Becker (17)

SEPTEMBER CALENDAR OF EVENTS

*Sept. 13 and 27 (2nd and 4th Tues. each month)
Healing & Intercessory Prayer, 11:00 a.m.
September 14 - Vestry Meeting 4:30 pm. **All Are Welcome!**
September 18 - Fellowship brunch following Worship Service -- venue to be announced
September - Men's Breakfast and Fellowship (Watch for date in e-notes)
September 25 - Coffee and contemplation following Holy Eucharist
Sept. 27- **Articles for October Newsletter are due.**
Contact Phyllis Olson.*

LOOKING AHEAD:

Canon Ernest Graham will visit ST. MM October 16, 2022.



Thoughts from the Vicar

When Ellen and I were in San Diego this past May, we heard about the effects of Red Tide, which has negatively affected the fishing industry in that area. One of the side-effects of Red Tide is a phenomenon that causes the waves to have a bright glowing blue hue at night. This bioluminescence comes from a chemical reaction when the living organisms within it (called phytoplankton) are disturbed. Many wonders in God's creation provide relevant spiritual illustrations, this being one.

When life circumstances shake us up, we have an opportunity to let the light of Christ within us shine forth. When we know Jesus and the power of his resurrection, a spiritual change within takes place that empowers us to be light in the midst of darkness. This change impacts our outlook on life when trials and tribulations disturb us, and it gives us the power to be overcomers.

A handwritten signature in black ink that appears to read "Stephen".

PHOTO GALLERY



Vicki practices for worship service



Peggy and Granddaughter Kensley set up for Sunday School, July 31



Alice Bane, Jim and Skip enjoy coffee hour



Off to college, Lenoir-Rhyne Univ., Hickory, NC.
Godspeed, Tessa. It has been fun watching you grow into a young lady.

VESTRY COMMITTEE REPORTS

Fellowship Event: A lakeside social will be held at Sequoia Point in Seven Lakes North on Friday, October 14, from 5:30 to 8:00 p.m. Unlike last year, this will be a fellowship event rather than a fundraiser. David will acquire two golf carts to shuttle attendees from the parking lot to the pavilion.

Fellowship Brunches: Sunday brunches will continue on a regular basis, but not necessarily monthly. Linda Sapp will assist with planning the brunches while Andrea is involved with the challenges of moving. They are seeking venues that provide a pleasant, but not too costly experience. The next fellowship brunch will be held on Sunday, September 18, at a venue to be announced.

Property Update: In preparation for the road construction, Kim and David have removed the ST. MM roadside sign and stored it behind the Church.

Outreach Update: Linda Lindner, Outreach Chair, will lead ST. MM in sponsoring at least one family for Christmas, 2022. She will contact West End Elementary School and work through the guidance counselor there. It was suggested that ST. MM could assist up to six children with gifts.

Advent Music Service: An evening service of carols and special music will be planned for Advent. Fr. Stephen and Vicki Derka will collaborate on plans for this program.

Christmas Service: Since Christmas day will be on Sunday this year, the Vestry approved holding a Christmas Eve service only on Saturday night. There will be no Sunday service on Christmas Day.

A Cheerful heart is a good medicine.

Proverbs 17:22

A BISHOP'S MEANDERINGS

Several years ago I began writing a monthly article for the parish Alice and I were attending after my retirement as Bishop of the Diocese of Southern Virginia. I called it "A Bishop's Meanderings" and I simply tried to offer a biblical/spiritual perspective on some area of human life, especially around the relationships we are all in. Much to my surprise it became quite popular and the Editor of the local newspaper asked me to write a weekly column for the paper. I gladly agreed and did so for about two years.

After a while I began to receive encouragement to put these writings into a book. The result is *God, Life, You, and Me*. The cover reads, "Practical thoughts to encourage the readers to ponder who they truly are in the depths of their souls." These short writings are based upon some of my favorite sermons over the past 30 years of ministry as a priest and bishop. My only goal is to perhaps provide some personal insight about various topics which could lead to deeper relationships with God and one another. It truly was "a labor of love."

+David

Bishop Bane has a stock of books available which he would be happy to sign for anyone. Once they are gone, they can be purchased at Barnes & Noble or on Amazon. Using the stock on hand is his first preference.



Consider providing flowers for the sanctuary. We all have events to honor and situations for which we are truly thankful. Flowers are a gift we all enjoy. The sign-up sheet is in the hall by the office. A donation of \$45.00 is suggested.



Moore County Coalition is always in need of food to distribute to needy families in our community.

Among needed items:

Pasta
Pasta sauce
Canned goods
Rice
Peanut butter
Cereal

Toothbrushes and toothpaste are also requested.



It's an awkward moment when Siri says: "In 400 feet, please pull over and let me out of the car."

Karen Friday Randall



"In order to maintain a well-balanced perspective, the person who has a dog to worship him should also have a cat to ignore him." —Peterborough Examiner, Canada

goodbye
August
//abcdefghijklloved

"The days grow hot in long July, and dusty August gets so dry we long for fair September."
copied

~~~~~ **Words to Ponder**

This item was borrowed from *The Cornerstone*,
St. David's Episcopal Church, Laurinburg, NC.

"We need you. All of us who labor together in the far fields of the sacred, in the narrow streets where justice is seldom seen, in the shadow lands between hope and resignation: we need you. We need your determination not to quit. We need your sense of humor, your wisdom grown from experience, your willingness to share what you have. When you must step away from us you are missed. When you come through the door you are like good news walking. We need you and are ever grateful that you have made this community your home."

- Bishop Steven Charleston

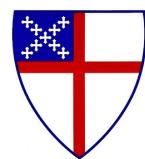
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A Mission of the Episcopal Diocese of North Carolina



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Junior Warden – Julia Poisson
Linda Lindner, Kim Doolittle, Tim Burgess,
and Jim Douglass

Vestry Secretary – Sherol Grigerick
Treasurer- David Poisson