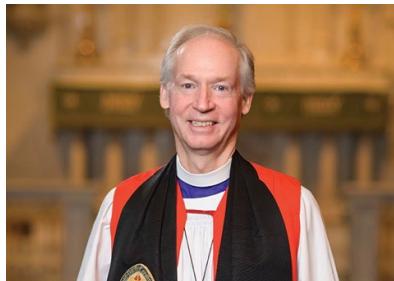


Saint Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church

October 2023 Newsletter



BISHOP SAM VISITS ST. MM

The Rt. Rev. Samuel Rodman, XII Bishop of the Diocese of North Carolina, was our honored guest September 17. During his full morning with us, he led our service as Preacher and Celebrant and also received new members, Joan and Paul Fruiesen, into full fellowship of the Episcopal Church. Each received a Prayer Book as part of their reception into our Church.

Our musician, Vicky Derka, assembled a choir for the occasion.

Following the Holy Eucharist Service and Coffee Hour, Bishop Sam led a question and answer session, offering information and encouragement to the parishioners. We were truly honored to have Bishop Sam as our guest.



Photo by Ellen Becker
New Members, Joan and Paul Fruiesen with Bishop Rodman and Fr. Becker

OCTOBER CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Oct. 10 and 24 - Tuesday Morning Healing & Intercessory Prayer Meeting, 11:00 a.m.
October - All Sundays - Discussion Time with Bishop Bane following worship service
Oct. 14 - Men's Breakfast - 9:00 a.m.
October 18 - Vestry Meeting 4:30 pm. *All Are Welcome!*
Oct. 22 - Bishop Bane, Celebrant and Preacher (Fr. Stephen will be away Oct. 21-26)
Oct. 27 - Articles for November Newsletter are due. Contact Phyllis Olson or Sherol Grigerick.

Please note: Bishop Bane will be holding small group sessions each week after the worship service to discuss a chapter of his book, *God, Life, You, and Me*. These short informal gatherings are a good way to grow in faith and understanding and to get to know one another on a deeper level. All are invited to attend.

Looking ahead:

The next **Sunday Brunch** will be November 5, All Saints Sunday, at the Pine Crest Inn.

Looking ahead: **Stewardship Sunday** will be held on November 12. A potluck brunch will follow the service.



New Member, Lloyd Brewer

We share the joy of welcoming Lloyd Brewer into the St. MM Fellowship.



October Birthdays

Jack Douglass	5
Jane Hanham	6
Tally Bandy	13
Bob Rinaldi	23
Tim Burgess	26



October Anniversaries

Laura and Jim Douglass 10

Diocesan Convention Delegates

Laura and Jim Douglass will represent our congregation at the Diocesan Convention to be held in Winston-Salem, November 17-18, 2023, and we thank them. Fr. Stephen will also attend.



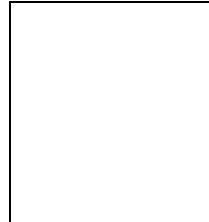
Beautiful Lake Sequoia Chosen for Fall Fellowship Event

Parishioners will gather for a potluck supper at Sequoia Point, Seven Lakes North, Friday, September 29, 5:30 till sunset. This fall event has become a favorite as the days shorten, the spectacular sunsets intensify and cool weather delights. Thanks to all who helped prepare for this gathering, especially all the cooks.

Catching up with old friends



On their recent trip to Florida, Peggy and Steve Loomis had lunch with former parishioners, Ed and Suzanne Clarke. The Clarkes are doing well and send greetings to St. MM



FALL– CHRISTMAS BAZAAR PLANNED

Julia Poisson will again serve as chairperson for *Merry Market*, our Fall/Christmas Bazaar, to be held Saturday, November 18. This event supports our St. MM Outreach Program.

As always, we will need baked goods, craft items, volunteers to set up, take down, and be present on Merry Market Day.

Be a volunteer. Many hands make easier work.

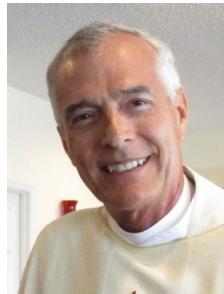
If you know a crafter or artist who might be interesting in having a booth at our event, please contact Julia.

ANOTHER REMINDER

Tim would appreciate help creating the weekly church bulletin. Contact him if you could volunteer to help.

Add to your church directory:

Joan and Paul Fruiesen
4 Eliot Ct.
Foxfire Village, NC 27281
Phone- 910-466-9038 (home phone)
E-mail-- pjfruiesen@nc.rr.com



Words from the Vicar

Recently, Ellen and I saw a movie about a young prince who wanted to marry a princess from another country, but she was not interested nor impressed by the wealth and majesty of his kingdom. So he took another tactic to win her love. He put on the garments of a peasant and served as an apprentice of an artist who was painting her portrait. She eventually began to notice and see inner qualities in him that she admired. Eventually, they fell in love.

This story gives us a small picture of Christ's love for us. The Apostle Paul wrote, "Though he was God, he did not think of equality with God as something to cling to or use for his advantage. Instead, he gave up his divine privileges; he took the humble position of a slave and was born as a human being."¹

Paul's words give us a classic nutshell view of the Gospel, where Christ humbled himself to the point of death for those he wanted to save. It is a love story of love stories. Yet, a similar love story can begin in us if we, too, will humble ourselves and take on forms of service that value others above ourselves. It is a mindset that makes loving God and others the chief aim of our lives.

¹ Philippians 2:6-7 New Living Translation



Church Sign in Orion, Wisconsin "If every member was just like me, what kind of a church would this church be?"



When I worked for an organization that delivers lunches to elderly shut-ins, I took my 4-year-old daughter on my afternoon rounds. She was unfailingly intrigued by the various appliances of old age, particularly the canes, walkers and wheelchairs. One day I found her staring at a pair of false teeth soaking in a glass. As I braced myself for the inevitable barrage of questions, she merely turned and whispered, "The tooth fairy will never believe this!" **copied**



Kensley and Scarlett share a book



"Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you"

(1 Thessalonians 5:16-17).



**Come, ye thankful people come,
Raise the song of harvest home.**



It is a good thing to give thanks to the Lord, and to sing praises to your Name, O Most High. Psalm 92:1

Vestry Members

Senior Warden – Bob Rinaldi
Junior Warden – Sherol Grigerick
Bill Lindner, John Sapp, Jim Douglass, Steve Loomis

Vestry Secretary – Sherol Grigerick
Treasurer- David Poisson

St. Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church

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The Rev. Stephen Becker, Vicar
The Rt. Rev. David Bane, Jr.
Bishop in Residence

Newsletter Editors: Phyllis Olson
and Sherol Grigerick

A Mission of the Episcopal Diocese of North Carolina

