

Saint Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church

March 2024 Newsletter



BISHOP SAM LEADS FIRST LENTEN BIBLE STUDY VIA ZOOM

Following the Lenten supper on Feb. 22, Bishop Sam Rodman joined us via Zoom, opening with a ten-minute message. He then invited the group to join in a discussion regarding what Lent means to us as Christians. The group shared feelings and experiences, creating a meaningful time together.

Lenten Suppers will continue through the Season of Lent with special leaders joining us via Zoom each Thursday. You are invited to participate, first for the fellowship of sharing a meal of soup and bread, then a time for study and contemplation. Sign-up sheets are on the round table.



Pete and Bob



Mary Lou and Linda

MARCH CALENDAR OF EVENTS

*Lenten suppers March 7 and March 14
5:30 p.m.*

*March 12 and 26 - Healing & Intercessory
Prayer (2nd and 4th Tuesday of each
month) 11:00 a.m.*

*March 14 - Vestry Meeting, 4:00 p.m. **All
are Welcome** (Lenten supper follows, 5:30)*

*March 28- Maundy Thursday Service- 5:00
p.m.*

March 29- Good Friday Service at noon

March 31 – Easter Service 9:30 a.m.

*March 27th– **Articles for the April
Newsletter are due. Contact Phyllis Olson
or Sherol Grigerick***

LOOKING AHEAD

Lenten Programs:

5:30 p.m. Soup and bread supper

6:15 p.m. a devotional program.

7:00 p.m. Dismissal

March 7 - Rev. Sarah Morris of Trinity Episcopal Church in Mt. Airy, NC, will lead via Zoom.

March 14 - Bishop Jennifer Brooke-Davidson will lead via Zoom.

Please note: On March 14, the Vestry Meeting begins at 4:00 p.m. The Fourth Lenten Supper and program will follow, 5:30

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March 28- Maundy Thursday Service- 5:00 p.m.

March 29- Good Friday Service at noon

March 31 – Easter Service 9:30 a.m.



March Birthdays

Lindsay Douglass. 3

Pete Olson 10

Andrea Schmidt. 19

Sherol Grigerick. 28



March Anniversaries

No anniversaries in March

EASTER LILIES

Parishioners are invited to purchase Easter lilies to adorn the altar on Easter Sunday. A sign-up sheet is on the round table near the front door.

OUTREACH PLANS

Bill Lindner, Outreach Chair, reports that St. MM will deliver Easter cards and wrapped candy to Seven Lakes Assisted Living. A box will be placed on the table in the Narthex for donations.

Bill Lindner suggests that St. MM look into a potential partnership with thirty-five churches in the area who are networking to serve our community's special needs. Christ Community Church, Grace Church, and New Covenant Church are three of the leading churches involved. The Vestry will be in charge of the decision.

In February, Valentine cards, candy, and clothing donations were delivered to Seven Lakes Assisted Living residents.



Reflections from the Vicar:

This year the Church calendar for March is jam-packed. In it, we will complete our Lenten season with Palm Sunday on March 24th and Easter Sunday on March 31st. The scope of the readings calls for “All the ends of the earth to remember and turn to the Lord.”ⁱ For example, our Prayer Book

liturgy for Palm Sunday encourages us “to enter with joy upon the contemplation of those mighty acts, whereby you have given us life and immortality.”ⁱⁱ Then, the liturgies of Holy Week bring us to the cross as a place of refuge. The well-known hymn, “In the cross of Christ I glory,” says it beautifully. “All the light of sacred story gathers round its head sublime.”ⁱⁱⁱ

Therefore, let us pray that celebrating these events would “lead us to the rock that is higher than I,”^{iv} for that is the goal of our Lenten journey. *Amen*

¹ Psalm 22:27

ii Collect for Palm Sunday, BCP, p. 270

iii The Hymnal 1982, Hymn 441, verse 1

iv Psalm 61:2b

*Once again, St. MM proves
its generosity.*

OUTREACH DONATIONS - 2023

Episcopal Diocese of NC.	\$6,795
Rent assistance	3,749
Compassion international.	30
Vietnam Vet. CHP 966.	1,500
Christmas Food Cards	400
Friend to Friend	300
West End Food Pantry.	500
Moore Free and Charitable Clinic	300
Animal Advocates	100
The C. A. R. E. Group.	100
Linus Project	100
Military Missions in Action.	<u>1,000</u>
	\$ 14,874

THE GREATEST OF THESE

“Christians are God’s advertisement to a watching society. ... Christian love will always be the best message the church has for its community and the world.....We are Christ’s ambassadors, representing him to the world.”

(From a sermon by Dr. Rick Ezell, found on-line.)



Sherol, Jr. Warden & Julia, Sr. Warden



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During the Season of Lent, the beautiful floral arrangements which normally adorn our chancel area are replaced with plain foliage.

## MAKING ST. MM KNOWN IN OUR COMMUNITY

Jim Douglass will place a notice in *The Pilot* regarding our Easter service, March 31. Ads are also currently appearing in *The Seven Lakes Insider*. At the Vestry’s direction, Jim will place a St. MM ad in the "Guide to the Sandhills Worship Directory," published by *The Pilot*.



*Tonight's weather forecast: Dark, with continued darkness until morning.*

**George Carlin**

“When in doubt, look intelligent.” **Garrison Keilor**

“I remember it like it was yesterday. Of course, I don’t really remember yesterday all that well.” — **Dory, “Finding Dory”**

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Pete and Steve, the faithful money counters

AN INVITATION FROM ANDREA

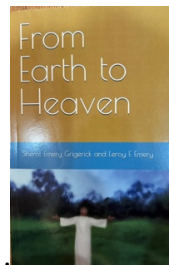
You are invited to a combined art show and 80th birthday celebration for Andrea Schmidt at Penick Village on March 19, 4:00 p.m. Come and celebrate with Andrea this wonderful milestone in her life. She will have on display some of her most recent paintings. The birthday party and art show will be held in the dining room of the main building at Penick. Andrea looks forward to seeing many of her friends from St.MM.

PHYLLIS HAS PUBLISHED A BOOK

Copies of *The Faded Blue House* are available. Contact Phyllis if you would like to purchase one. phyllisandpete@gmail.com
They are also available on Amazon.com.



SHEROL'S BOOK, *FROM EARTH TO HEAVEN*, is still available on Amazon.com. and she also has copies. Ask her and she will provide you a copy. grigseg@aol.com



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Vestry Members

Senior Warden – Julia Poisson
Junior Warden – Sherol Grigerick
Bill Lindner, Steve Loomis, Lloyd Brewer
and Jim Douglass

Vestry Secretary – Sherol Grigerick
Treasurer- David Poisson
Webmaster – Jim Douglass

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**Compare your griefs with other men's,
and they will seem less. *Spanish Proverb***

St. Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church

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

Newsletter Editors:
Phyllis Olson and Sherol Grigerick

*A Mission of the Episcopal Diocese of
North Carolina*

