

# Saint Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church

August 2025 Newsletter

## OPPORTUNITY FOR OUTREACH

Volunteers are needed for a Rise Against Hunger community event 9/20/25, at West End Presbyterian Church. Event organizers request an estimate of the number of volunteers by August 15<sup>th</sup>. Sixty-five workers will be needed to assemble 15,000 meal packets. Please sign up to represent St. MM at this important outreach opportunity.

At the July meeting, the Vestry approved a \$2,400 donation to Rise Against Hunger. If the Phase 3 Diocesan Grant is approved, our donation will come from those funds. Contact Julia or Sherol if you have questions.

## LOVING OURSELVES

Bishop Bane

Whether we admit it or not, the truth is that we all struggle with loving ourselves. There are things about us that we wish were different. We might even suspect that if others really knew us, they could not really love us. This is exactly where the love of God through Jesus Christ can have its most transforming power. The God who created you and me knows us far better than anyone else, and has proclaimed that we are loved, just as we are, warts and doubts and all, now and forever. That is the whole point of the Christian faith; you are one-of-a-kind and loved unconditionally every moment of your life. Period. No exceptions. Love is never something that is earned nor deserved, but given freely. We need to take a deep breath sometimes, cut ourselves some slack, and whisper, "Thank you for loving me, Lord. Teach me to love myself so I can then better love others in your name."

## AUGUST CALENDAR OF EVENTS

August 5 & 26 - Healing/Prayer Service  
11:00 a.m.

### **Preacher/Celebrants for August:**

August 3-- Rev. Hugh Tudor-Foley,  
August 10- Canon Ernest Graham  
August 17- Rev. Ryan Parker  
August 24- Bishop Bane  
August 31- Rev. Lito Santos  
August fellowship brunch will be Aug. 24 or Aug. 31. See note below

*August 27 -Articles for September  
Newsletter are due. Contact Phyllis Olson  
or Sherol Grigerick.*

*Thank you, Julia Poisson, Senior Warden,  
for securing the Preacher/Celebrants for  
the coming weeks as we await the selection  
of a priest.*

## LOOKING AHEAD

A sign-up for the August fellowship brunch is on the table in the narthex. Please indicate your preference regarding the two dates being considered: Aug. 24 or Aug. 31

**Next Vestry Meeting:** Wednesday, September 10, 5:30 p.m. **All are welcome.**

**Fellowship Fundraising Dinner at** Sequoia Point planned for Sept. 19<sup>th</sup> or 26<sup>th</sup>

## Grant Application Submitted

Julia and Sherol, Sr. and Jr. Wardens, have submitted an application for the Phase 3 Diocesan Grant of \$10,000. If approved, the funds will be donated to the five non-profits listed on the grant. St.MM will contribute \$2,000 in matching funds.



## August Birthdays

Linda Rinaldi 5  
Lilith Fravel 11  
Julia Poisson 13  
Maureen Miller 16  
Kaelynn Phillips 19  
Bob Miller 21  
Christa Burgess 28



## August Anniversaries

Phyllis and Pete Olson 16  
Martha and Skip Ragland 26



Jackie shows off her beautiful quilt project



Vicki and Laura enjoy  
Sunday Morning Coffee Hour

## AROUND THE PARISH

Steve Loomis, Building and Grounds Chair, reports that the new air conditioning unit is working well, and the temperature can be adjusted to a cooler setting when needed.



Photo by Sherol

Tuesday Morning Prayer gathering



Sunday Morning ~  
Old friends, Phyllis and Kensley



Pete gets the vacuuming done ~ with a little help from his friend.



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Skip and Martha Ragland's granddaughter, Caro Daye Attayek, will make her Broadway debut in *Mama Mia* at the Winter Garden Theater in NYC. The show will run for six months beginning in August. Caro is one of twenty-five cast members making their Broadway debut. Congratulations to Caro and her proud grandparents!



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We thank Jim Douglass for maintaining our website. Check it out.

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### The Light of Day

An old rabbi once asked his pupils how they could tell when the night had ended and the day had begun.

“Could it be,” asked a student, “when you can see an animal in the distance and tell whether it’s a sheep or a dog?”

“No,” answered the rabbi.

“Is it when you can look at a tree in the distance and tell whether it’s a fig tree or a peach tree?”

“No,” answered the rabbi.

“Then when is it?” the pupils demanded.

“It’s when you can look on the face of any man or woman and see that it is your sister or brother. Because if you cannot see this, it is still night.” *Tales of the Hasidim*

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*There is no greater treasure than a good friend!*



**The items below were *reported* to be actual announcements in church bulletins:**

- > The Fasting & Prayer Conference includes meals.
- > Scouts are saving aluminum cans, bottles and other items to be recycled. Proceeds will be used to cripple children.
- > The sermon this morning: 'Jesus Walks on the Water.' The sermon tonight: 'Searching for Jesus.'
- > Ladies, don't forget the rummage sale. It's a chance to get rid of those things not worth keeping around the house. Bring your husbands.
- > Don't let worry kill you off - let the Church help.



## COFFEE HOUR IN NEED OF SUPPORT

Most of us look forward to the Sunday morning coffee hour including a sweet treat and fellowship with our friends. It doesn't just happen; someone makes it happen, ... too often the same volunteers over and over.

Would you consider taking a turn? Store-bought treats are just fine. We love Famous Amos and Keebler cookies! Fellowship is the thing.



*"No one has ever seen God;  
but if we love each other, God lives in  
us!" 1 John 4:12*

## Vestry Members

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

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

# St. Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church

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*A Mission of the Episcopal Diocese of  
North Carolina*

