

# Saint Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church

## October 2025 Newsletter

### OUTREACH



#### Rise above Hunger Workday

On September 20, faithful St.MM workers showed up at the West End Presbyterian Church (lookin' good in their hairnets) to help assemble food packets of nutritious dried vegetables, soy, and rice. There they joined about 150 other volunteers from area churches and non-profit groups.

Within two hours, teams of six to eight people assembled and packaged 28,000 meals. The meals were sent to Ukraine where they are greatly needed. St. MM volunteers included Julia and David, Sherol and Jim, Lloyd, Doug, and Crystal.

The Mission Team of West End Presbyterian Church, planners of this event, emailed a note of appreciation to St.MM for our volunteers and our generous financial support of \$2400 toward financing the outreach. Close to \$12,000 was raised in total, mostly from local churches.



#### OCTOBER CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**Oct. 14 and 28 – Healing/Prayer Service, 11:00 a.m.**

**Oct. 19 – Sunday Brunch**

**A Fall/Halloween outreach project is planned for Seven Lakes Assisted Living – Contact Sherol to participate**

#### CELEBRANTS FOR OCTOBER

**10/5-Rev. Ryan Parker**

**10/12- Bishop Bane**

**10/19- Rev. Ryan Parker**

**10/26- Rev. Hugh Tudor-Foley**

**Oct. 27 - Articles for the November Newsletter are due. Contact Phyllis Olson or Sherol Grigerick**

#### LOOKING AHEAD

**Next Vestry Meeting:** Wednesday, November 12 at 5:30 p.m.

**Stewardship Sunday:** Stewardship Sunday will be celebrated November 9, with a potluck brunch following the service. A stewardship letter will be sent to parishioners with pledge cards included.

**Diocesan Delegate:** Lloyd Brewer will be St. MM's delegate for the Diocesan convention on November 21-22.

**Outreach:** Watch for the collection box in the Narthex to gather Fall/Halloween treats for Seven Lakes Assisted Living residents. Requested items: individually wrapped candy and Thanksgiving greeting cards. Please bring in all Halloween treats by 10/26. Thank you!



Jim and Laura Douglass. 10



Lydia Camp 1  
Jack Douglass 5  
Jane Hanham 6  
Tally Bandy 13  
Bob Rinaldi 23  
Tim Burgess 26



HOPE IN SUFFERING

We really do not like suffering, and we do everything in our power to avoid it, but we all know that is just not possible in this life. Albert Schweitzer once said that those who have been hurt always carry the scar of that hurt within them. Because of that, they are drawn closer to others who have suffered, calling it the Brotherhood (also Sisterhood), of those who bear the mark of pain. But isn't it true that when we are hurt, we want to get through it, forget about it, and move on? Henri Nouwen in "The Wounded Healer" wrote that Christians are called to respond differently to the suffering in our lives. His premise is that the term wounded healer describes both Jesus Christ and those of us who have chosen to follow him. He is suggesting that we must not immediately try to put our hurts and pain behind us and forget about them. He believes that Jesus encourages us to carry those wounds, those scars, with us to enable us to be with those others who are suffering. It seems to me that

this is just what the cross represents, suffering leading to healing and new life. Wouldn't that empower us to follow the Great Commandment to "love our neighbor as ourselves?" **Bishop David Bane**

### A Fine Day for a Picnic

September 19 was an uncommonly warm fall day, but still St. MM picnickers gathered at the Lake Sequoia pavilion to celebrate the end of summer and share a meal.



Donna sets the table



Lydia and Jim



Phyllis & Pete



Linda & guest, Mugsy Hinrich



Robbie Caskey & Sherol



John & Lloyd



David and Alice



David and Julia



Dusk at Lake Sequoia



Laura serves Holy Eucharist

### Looking Ahead:

**On Christmas Eve**, Rev. Ryan Parker will also be officiating and celebrating the Christmas Eve service. The format will be *Lessons and Carols*, and he and Vicki Derka will coordinate the service.



**FYI:** St. MM received an expression of gratitude from the local student who received a donation from our Samaritan Fund, to be applied to her living expenses at UNC Charlotte. (note posted on the bulletin board.)



There is a child in every one of us who is still a Trick-or-Treater looking for a brightly lit front porch. – **Robert Brault**



**More items reported to be actual announcements in church bulletins:**

>Mr. Benson accepted the office of head deacon. We could not get a better man.  
>The Over 60s Choir has disbanded for the summer with the thanks of the entire church.



Life is simpler when you are nonchalant. As soon as you start chalanting, it all goes sideways.

~

**We thank Jim Douglass for maintaining our St. MM Website.**

## **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***

