

# Saint Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church

## November 2022 Newsletter



Photo by Fr. Stephen

### Fall Picnic at Lake Sequoia

St. MM parish families gathered, October 14, on beautiful Lake Sequoia to share a covered-dish fellowship supper.

At the close, the group enjoyed a beautiful sunset.



### Stewardship Sunday

Stewardship Sunday will be celebrated November 13, with a potluck brunch following the morning worship service. Sign-up sheets are on the round table near the front door.

Parishioners are asked to pick up their letters and pledge cards from the round table. (Some, of necessity, will be sent out by.) Parishioners may put their signed pledge cards in the large envelope located on the round table.

Treasurer David Poison will use the pledge cards as a guide in developing a budget, and only he will have access to them.

*2 Corinthians 9:7 As every man wisheth in his heart, so let him give, not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver. KJV*



### NOVEMBER CALENDAR OF EVENTS

*Nov. 8 and Nov. 22 – Healing & Intercessory Prayer, 11:00 a.m. (First and fourth Tuesday of each month)*

*Nov. 13 – Stewardship Sunday – Potluck brunch following the service*

*Nov. 17 - Vestry Meeting, 4:30 p.m. - **All Are Welcome!***

*Nov. 19 – Merry Market 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.*

*Nov. 20 – Coffee and Contemplation*

*Nov. 20 – Interfaith Thanksgiving Service 4:00 p.m. (See information below)*

*Nov. 27– **Articles for December Newsletter are due. Contact Phyllis Olson***

You are invited to attend the Vestry meeting, Thursday, November 17 at 4:30 pm. The budget will be discussed, outreach contributions will be distributed, and year-end issues resolved.

### Interfaith Thanksgiving Service Resumes

After missing the community interfaith worship for the past two years due to Covid, plans are underway to resume this Interfaith Thanksgiving Service.

The celebration will be held **Sunday, November 20, at 4 p.m.** at the Congregational Church of Pinehurst on Linden Road (across from Elliot's on Linden). Please plan to attend and give thanks along with area friends from different congregations.



### November Birthdays

- Julie Wahl - 7
- Tessa Fravel - 15
- Lucy Dunn Martin - 22
- Holden Brown - 30



### November Anniversaries

- Lin and Phil Cox - 1
- Andrea and Dale Schmidt - 4
- Jean and Bob Brown - 9

### TIME FOR MERRY MARKET

Saturday before Thanksgiving, November 19, has been set aside for the annual fall/Christmas bazaar, Merry Market. We are in need of a few more vendors and as always bakers, artists, crafters and on-sight helpers. **AND WE NEED SHOPPERS ON NOVEMBER 19.**

Be a willing worker. Contact Chairperson, Julia Poisson to see how you can help.



### Family Sponsorship Planned as Christmas Outreach Project

Outreach Chair, Linda Lindner, is making plans with the guidance counselor at West End Elementary to provide assistance to one or more local families at Christmas time.

The angel tree will be set up at the church after the Merry Market in November and volunteers can sign at that time to provide gifts.

### Monthly Child Sponsorship

ST. MM Vestry voted to participate in Compassion International by sponsoring a seven-year-old Ethiopian girl. The gift will be \$40 per month, with additional small sums given for birthday and Christmas. The Vestry will manage this outreach.

### Diocesan Relief Fund

The Vestry voted to send \$1,000 to the Diocesan relief fund for aid to Ukraine. The funds will go to provide food, clothing, and shelter for the Ukrainian people.

### Parking Lot Update

Kim Doolittle reports that construction along Seven Lakes Drive should begin very soon. Work zone signs have been placed on the roadway.

Information regarding our compensation from the State will be forthcoming.



### Celebrating All Saints Day

Our Church calendar for the month of November begins with the celebration of "All Saints Day." If you are unfamiliar with the background of this feast, liturgical churches use this particular day to celebrate saints who have not gained significant distinction. Some might describe the saints we celebrate on this day as more down-to-earth but attractively human. Therefore, the saints that we salute and recognize on this day are a little more ordinary than the saints who have their own named feast days, or who are famed for startling visions or for leading history-altering crusades. Instead, this celebration is about people expressing their love for God in humble, quiet ways.

One of the reasons that I cherish our congregation is that your love for each other is evident in tangible, practical, and personal ways. Most of the time our parishioners simply do their

jobs and help others when needed . There are times, however, when people share stories or ask sincere questions about their struggles and doubts. This sharing often takes place during our Coffee and Contemplation session on Sunday mornings. Not everyone is comfortable with sharing, since many grew up in Churches where such discussions were private. But we can all grow in our faith by hearing others' experiences and stories. We can also encourage each other with whatever gifts we have. The Church is a body of people called to be a light in a dark world. Your service may not be evangelism or openly sharing your faith, but your light is precious, whether it draws much attention or not. The Spirit that is alive in you makes a difference; for this reason, you are called salt and light (See Matthew 5:13-16). So let's be that salt, and let's be that light. *Amen.*

*Stephen Becker*

**Article from Day by Day, 10-2-22**

Over the years, when I've talked with lay leaders and clergy about how our churches function, we routinely land on those humble, righteous members who just make things happen. These are, of course, the members of the altar guild and the ushers but also the folks who clean up after fellowship events and those who file the choir music.

The righteous include the people who arrive early and shovel snow, open the doors, repair the dishwasher, take out the trash, call the missing, take the bulletins to the shut-ins, and listen while others, well, rant. Sometimes they're officially part of a ministry team, but many times, they are just humble, righteous community members extending their faith. In Luke, Jesus extols just such humble servants. *Mallard Benton*



Just because you are struggling doesn't mean you are failing. **Copied**



Life is filled with treasures,  
If you're a lucky one.  
Be grateful and be humble,  
And share them with someone.

**Julie Hebert**

☺ In childhood, we yearn to be grown-ups. In old age, we yearn to be kids. It just seems that all would be wonderful if we didn't have to celebrate our birthdays in chronological order.

**- Robert Brault**



*Come, ye thankful people, come,  
raise the song of harvest home;  
all is safely gathered in,  
ere the winter storms begin.  
God our Maker doth provide  
for our wants to be supplied;  
come to God's own temple, come,  
raise the song of harvest home.*



## **Vestry Members**

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

Vestry Secretary – Sherol Grigerick  
Treasurer- David Poisson

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

Newsletter Editor: Phyllis Olson

*A Mission of the Episcopal Diocese of North  
Carolina*

