

# Saint Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church

## February 2023 Newsletter



Our sign is now in storage and will be reinstalled when the roadwork is complete.

### Vestry Committee Assignments – 2023

**Advertising/Publicity**-- Jim Douglass  
**Fund Raising** - Golf Tournament, etc.— Steve Loomis, Jim Douglass, and Bob Rinaldi

**Merry Market**-- Julia Poisson (Non-Vestry)

**Events** -Lenten and pancake suppers, picnic event, etc. -- John Sapp

**Sunday Brunches**-- Linda Sapp (Non-Vestry)

**Outreach**-- Linda Lindner

**Stewardship**—John Sapp, Steve Loomis, and Pete Olson (Non-Vestry)

**Pastoral Care**— Sherol Grigerick

**Property**-- Skip Ragland and Jim Grigerick (Non-Vestry)

*Look for an updated church directory - delivered via email, around Feb. 1<sup>st</sup>.*

**FEBRUARY CALENDAR OF EVENTS**  
*February 14 and 28 - Healing & Intercessory Prayer ( 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of each month) 11:00 a.m.*

*Feb. 22 - Vestry Meeting, 4:00 p.m. **All are Welcome***

*Feb. 22 - Ash Wednesday Service 5:15, immediately following the Vestry Meeting*

*Feb. 27th– **Articles for the March Newsletter are due. Contact Phyllis Olson.***

### **LOOKING AHEAD**

**Lenten Programs:** There will be four Lenten Suppers with a program following each: **March 2, 9, 16, and 23.**

Bishop Sam Rodman will lead the first program via Zoom, and Bishop Jennifer Brooke-Davidson will lead the last program via Zoom. Bishop Bane will lead the Feb. 9<sup>th</sup> and Feb. 16<sup>th</sup> programs in-person.

Road construction progress may require changes to the above plans. If so, the meetings will be held at the West End Scout Lodge, and you will be notified of adjustments.

The suppers will start at 5:30 and the program will end by 7:00 p.m.



### **February Birthdays**

Vicki Derka. 19  
Mary Lou Steinkamp 23  
Jackie Wells 25



### **February Anniversaries**

Sherol and Jim Grigerick 19  
Alice and Bishop Bane 6



**FROM THE VICAR:**

I chose to study the book of Psalms for our Coffee and Contemplation class this year because our worship of God needs to be inspired by timeless truths that King David and a host of others in Israel’s history have discovered. This collection of songs shows us how we can bring the fullness of our humanity, with all of its highs and lows, before a holy, sovereign, and loving God. They give us reasons for worship and instill a sacred reverence through their promises and recitations of God’s mighty acts. Additionally, they help us be grateful for God’s blessings which flow from his unfailing love. For “the LORD is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounds in steadfast love. The LORD is good to all, and his mercies are over all that he has made.” (Psalms 145:8-9)



**REMEMBERING ERNIE MARTIN**

*Bob Rinaldi*

I first met Ernie Martin on the back row with the other men of our St. Mary Magdalene choir. He was the patriarch of the choir and loved singing those Baptist gospel songs. For such a soft spoke southern

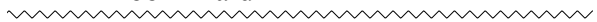
gentleman he could really belt out those songs.

He was always concerned about introductions to new music. Following the first run-through of a new arrangement, he felt obligated to say, “Can we get our money back on this one?” Then he’d say “When are we singing this one? I might be absent that day.” Or he might suggest next year as a target date to sing that one. But no matter when it was scheduled he was always ready to perform. He was a dedicated member of our choir, faithfully attending each practice, and always there on Sunday.

Ernie never turned down a cup of black coffee. One of the first questions he’d ask when we visited was, “Would you like a cup of coffee?” This way he was able to get another or two for himself. The same goes for any cookies available. He loved his sweets.

I will miss my dear back row friend and the times we shared coffee and sweets. We love you Ernie.

Your friend,  
Bob Rinaldi



**St. MM’s Monthly Child Sponsorship:**

Our parish is now sponsoring Emanda, a six-year-old Ethiopian child. Her photo is on the bulletin board in the Narthex along with her letter to us.

**Small Group Get-togethers Planned**

The Vestry is making plans to start small fellowship groups (like the previous supper clubs). Sherol Grigerick will prepare a chart of four potential groups based on parishioners’ residences. This report will be made at the Feb. 22, Vestry Meeting.

The groups could be very flexible regarding where they meet and if they would have a meal or snacks together.

# Photo gallery



Fr. Stephen and Maureen share a jolly coffee hour moment



Peggy and Julia faithfully volunteer at Emmanuel Thrift Shop



Kade Phillips, Samantha's son, Bette's great-grandson, celebrated his first birthday in December. Beautiful!!!



Dale and Andrea are now residents at Penick Village. Their new address will be available soon.



Mary Lou Steinkamp recently joined our congregation. A hearty welcome, Mary Lou.



Ellen and Alice enjoy the Vestry Christmas celebration



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



*Laughter is a wonderful way to add years to your life, and life to your years.*

**Joel Goodman**

*Blessed are we who can laugh at ourselves, for we shall never cease to be amused.*

**Copied**

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

**George Carlin**

## **Vestry Members**

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

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

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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*

