



June/July 2025

St. Mary's Episcopal Church:
Serving with JOY!
The Bell Ringer

Online at www.stmaryskinston.com



PENTECOST SUNDAY

June 8, 2025

"And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the spirit gave them utterance."

[Acts 2:1-4]

Pentecost is a Principle Feast Day of the church calendar, celebrated on the seventh Sunday after Easter. This year, **Pentecost is June 8th**. While there is an ancient Jewish holiday of the same name, for Christians, Pentecost commemorates the gift of the Holy Spirit to the Apostles and other followers of Jesus Christ while they were in Jerusalem observing the Jewish custom. Because the Holy Spirit has inspired the spread of the Good News of Jesus to the world, Pentecost is often understood to be the birthday of the Church. Happy Birthday!!! On this day, the clergy wear **RED** vestments, and the altar will be adorned with red hangings. It is even customary for the people of the congregation to wear **RED** as well.

In addition to celebrating Pentecost on June 8, we will honor our graduates as well. See page 7 for more details.

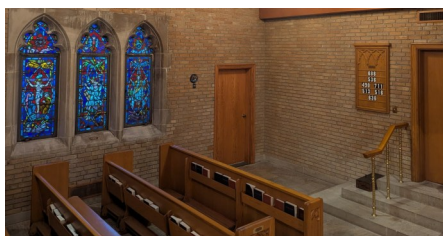
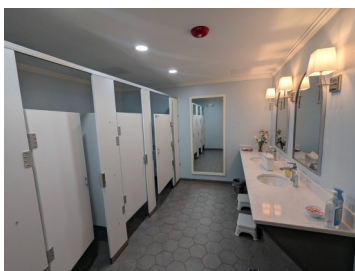
From the Rector



SERVE with JOY, RISE with JOY!

Greetings, friends! The seasons are changing and we recently have concluded our 2024-2025 Program Year at St. Mary's. This edition of the BellRinger acknowledges with great thanks MANY of the people who "served with joy" to help make this a wonderful year. There truly has been a lot to celebrate of late, especially with Bishop Skirving's recent visit to St. Mary's and 32 people being baptized, confirmed, received, or reaffirming their baptismal vows over the last 2 Sundays of May. Another highlight for the end of the Program Year was our last Wednesday Night Supper and the presentation/update of our Long Range Planning projects. It was a great time to reflect on what has happened, what's going on now, and our next steps. You can see a version of the slideshow online: https://account-media.s3.amazonaws.com/14459/uploaded/2/0e19797989_1748546286_2025-05-21-long-range-planning-update.pdf. Personally, it was wonderful for me to prepare the slides because it was the first time that I had intentionally gone back to review "before and after" pictures of the work that has taken place since last March's launch of the RISE with JOY Capital Campaign. The energy in the room during the presentation was marked with thanksgiving for the prayerful discernment that was the foundation of all of this work, and for the skill and intentionality with which the work has been carried out. I hope you'll take some time to look at the presentation and ask any questions that come to mind to members of the Long Range Planning Committee, Vestry, or me. Please also thank them for their work and visit the [RISE with JOY page of our www.stmaryskinston.com website](http://www.stmaryskinston.com) where you can learn more about the projects and participate by sending an online pledge.

Above all, please hold these projects and all in involved in your prayers. Of course, all of our work in service to God is related to the inner work that God is seeking to do within us. Many scriptures point to this, but one that comes to mind is 2 Corinthians 5:17 when St. Paul writes "if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come." As a person comes to faith in Jesus and grows in spiritual maturity, change unfolds not only within the person, but that inner life of faith "bears fruit" that is visible to the outside world. Sometimes that change is welcome and sometimes it is harder to accept. Sometimes you feel very much like a "work in progress" and wonder if it is worth it or how it is going to work out. I wonder what you would find if you took some time in this new summer season to ask God to remind you of the work that He is doing in you. What is the "before and after" of God's work in you that you could notice today? I'd be glad to talk and pray with you through these questions if you'd like. And, as we remember that Jesus is the author and finisher of our faith (Hebrews 12:2), may we all ask how God's Holy Spirit is leading us to serve with JOY in this season of our life of faith. God bless you, friends! Peace, *Tom +*



Some highlights of our projects (clockwise from top-left): demolition of old restrooms, new finished women's restroom, a work crew putting together a playground component on the Parish Commons, reclaimed lumber cut from our oak trees waiting for a new season, new entry area into the church's left transept, view of left transept with new door near windows.

The Episcopal Church

α

In the Anglican Communion

A global community of 80 million Anglicans in 38 member provinces/churches.

α

In the United States

A community of 1.9 million members in 118 dioceses in the Americas and abroad.

Established in 1788.

Presiding Bishop

The Most Rev. Sean Rowe

Episcopal Church Center

815 2nd Avenue

New York, N.Y. 10017 212-716-6000

www.episcopalchurch.org

α

In the Diocese of East Carolina

A community of more than 15,000 communicants in 70 churches.

Founded in 1883.

The Rt. Rev. Robert S. Skirving

Diocesan Office, 705 Doctors Dr.

P.O. Box 1336, Kinston, NC 28503

Tel: 252-522-0885

Fax: 252-523-5272

www.diocese-eastcarolina.org

α

St. Mary's Episcopal Church

"Serving with JOY!!"

Jesus First,

Others Second,

Yourself Last"

800 Rountree Street

Kinston, NC 28501-3655

Tel: 252-523-6146

Fax: 252-523-5134

www.stmaryskinston.com

Rector	The Rev'd Thomas P.H. Warren
Sr. Warden	Mrs. Bonnie Holton
Jr. Warden	Mr. Richard Crumbacker
Parish Administrator	Mrs. Lori Kelly
Minister of Music	Mr. Sam Holt
Communications Director	Mrs. Sherry Tanner
Administrative Assistant	Mrs. Lisa Maxwell
Mary's Kitchen Executive Director	Mr. Richard Crumbacker

News at St. Mary's



From the Parish Register



Baptisms:

Elizabeth Shimer ~ May 18, 2025

Wyatt Byrd ~ May 25, 2025

Burials:

PC Barwick ~ May 17, 2025

Confirmations:

May 18, 2025

Ashley Arnett Brodeur (joined the church)

James "Tyndall" Davis

Emma Grace Fader

Wallace Jackson "Jack" Herring

Oreta Wade Isler (joined the church)

Carolina Louise Jones

Lucy Ockerman Jones

Jacob "Jake" William Moye

Ray Hamilton Nute

Stewart Smith Perry (joined the church)

Warren "Wes" Seipp Perry, Jr. (joined the church)

Thomas "Tom" Kinchen Powers (joined the church)

Amanda May Shirley

Jason Edward Slavin

Allan Ware Turner, Jr.

Wilbert Markeyus Wade Jude Thomas Carraway Warren

Emily Elizabeth Wright

Receptions:

May 18, 2025

Deborah "Debbie" Lynn Fallin (joined the church)

Colleen Ann Powers (joined the church)

Reaffirmations:

May 18, 2025

Dacie Elaine Edwards

Jess Lee Edwards

Victoria "Vicki" Leake Kennedy

Anne Blake Lindley

Ronald "Ron" Joseph Michalowicz

Jude Patrick Tanner

Sherry Davis Tanner

Thelma Kathryn "Kay" Turner

Virginia "Ginny" Leigh Wade

Jayden Anderson Wright



PARISH NIGHT AT THE BALLPARK
SAVE THE DATE: JUNE 19TH, 2025

More details coming soon!

News at St. Mary's

Lemonade on the Lawn



Enjoy this weekly refreshing summertime gathering in the breezeway following the 10:30am liturgy each Sunday. Join us for light refreshments as we catch up and share life together. Individuals or families are encouraged to join together to host the refreshments - lemonade and something light to eat such as donuts, cookies, or muffins. The following items will be provided: a table (in the closet under the balcony stairs), paper products (in the bin marked "Lemonade on the Lawn" in the Moseley Hall coffee room), and ice (in the kitchen).

Hosts set up the table and lemonade/snacks by the end of the 10:30am service and clean up/return items after the event. Sherry Tanner will coordinate this ministry, and you may email her stanner@stmaryskinston.com with any questions. Sign up at this link: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0E48AFA62BABFCC61-57001283-lemonade>.



St. Mary's Blood Drive

St. Mary's will host a Blood Drive on **Monday, June 30th, 2025, Noon-4pm in Moseley Hall**. Walk-ins are always welcome but reservations are preferred. Make your reservation at www.redcrossblood.org and type in STMARYS or phone **1-800-RED-CROSS**. Give something that means something....give the gift of life with Red Cross.



The Parish Office will be closed on **Friday, July 4th, 2025** in observance of Independence Day. The staff of St. Mary's join you in celebrating the birth of our nation as well as keeping it in prayer for its future. We wish you a safe holiday!

Thank You

To Our Dear Friends At St. Mary's,

Brandon and I thank you for all your heartfelt prayers and support. These prayers meant more than you'll ever know. God heard your prayers and answered with a true miracle of life being given back to Brandon. He was in extremely rough waters but is treading in calmer waters now. While some medical treatment continues, he is waiting for God to guide the doctors to what is best for him in the future. If you saw him today, you'd never know he has any troubles. He is leading his life with a thankful heart, gratefulness and praise for our Lord. I, also, am full of thankfulness, gratefulness, and praise for our Lord and Savior. Please continue to keep us, especially Brandon, in your prayers.

With love,
Cyndi Rafferty and Brandon Adkins



Mary's Kitchen Soup Drive & Quarterly Service Date

This quarter, our service date at Mary's Kitchen is **Saturday, July 19th, 2025**. The Kitchen has a wishlist of needs: *peanut butter, grape jelly, Little Debbie cakes, canned chicken noodle/vegetable beef/tomato soups, hotdogs and buns, #10 cans of fruit/baked beans/vegetables, hamburger or chicken, and condiment sauces*. Please consider donating any of these items! Items may be dropped off to the church **during business hours the week of July 7th-11th** or on **Sunday, July 13th at the morning liturgy**. Also, we are excited to premier an easier way to make monetary donations through our new QR code. Simply scan the QR code to the right with your smart device and follow the link to access the donation page. Please contact Richard Crumbacker for any questions or if you would like to get involved in this meaningful ministry. Together, we can create a compassionate world for all, and we thank you for your support!



Music Notes

As summer approaches, I want to express my deep appreciation and gratitude for the dedicated members of the handbell and chancel choirs who give their time and talents in their ministry of music at St. Mary's. It is both a privilege and joy to work with such a committed and loyal group of people!

One of the most beautiful and ancient traditions of our Anglican tradition is Choral Evensong, sung as the sunlight begins to fade in the evening. Based on the Evening Prayer service in the Book of Common Prayer, Evensong is a beautiful, prayerful service of music and scriptures. In the Narthex, you will find a reprint of an article from a 2004 edition of the Anglican Digest that presents an informative discussion by Jeff McConaughy of the different elements of choral Evensong. Please feel free to take one, and learn more about this ancient tradition. When I am preparing music for this beautiful service, I often refer to this article.

We have sung Evensong several times this year, but beginning in the fall, we will offer Choral Evensong the second Sunday of each month, beginning in September and going through May (with the exception of December and January). This service will become a St. Mary's tradition and a beautiful offering to the community. Please invite your friends and neighbors! On June 15th, 2025 at 5:30pm, Schola Cantorum of the Diocese of East Carolina will offer Choral Evensong at St. Mary's. This beautiful service is especially important and an event you don't want to miss because the full choir of approximately seventy voices will present the music they will sing during their upcoming tour of cathedrals in England and Scotland. A reception will follow in Mosely Hall.

Then, on July 20th, 2025 at 4pm, all are invited to join us in the sanctuary or a "Midsummer afternoon Hymn Sing." We will spend an hour singing hymns of your choice. Feel free to choose hymns from The Hymnal 1982, Wonder Love & Praise, and Lift Every Voice & Sing. If you have a favorite hymn, that you would like for the congregation to sing at this event or during the summer months, please email Sam (sholt@stmaryskinston.com) or put a note in his box in the office. Please feel free to make suggestions from The Hymnal 1982 and Wonder, Love, & Praise found in the pews.

In Peace, Sam

Christian Formation & Fellowship

We offer our thanksgivings to all who served in the various ministries of St. Mary's this past season:

Adult Christian Formation: Vicki Kennedy, Randy Spaugh, Jess Edwards, Barbara Crumbacker, Ron Michalowicz, Juliet Barrus, James Blanford, Oreta Isler, Judy Johnson, Jessica Shimer, Tyler Nute

Men's Breakfast Team Members: Richard Crumbacker, Dolph Mintz, Ron Albertson, Jess Edwards, Corey Fader, Dick Maddux, Gerry Fox, Mark Moore, Simon Vick, Mike Haddad, Todd Tanner, Jude Tanner, Winston McKissick, Tyler Nute, Stuart Stroud, Ron Albertson, Andrew Duppsadt

Wednesday Night Meal Providers: Margaret Sharp, Jessica Shimer, Pam Mazingo, Cyndi Rafferty, Alexandria Delman, Judy Johnson, Sandra Warren, Heather Mintz, Nancy White, Bonnie Smith, Kay Turner, Rochelle Williams, Sarah Warner, Ginny Wade, Audra Haddad, Margaret Spaugh, Mara Moye, Anne Lindley, Harry Wooten

COLTON BARBER ECU SENIOR RECITAL

ALL ARE INVITED!

Sunday, June 8th at 5PM

First United Methodist Church Wilson, N.C.
{100 Green St NE}



CHRISTIAN FORMATION FOR ADULTS CONVERSATIONS

JULY 20, 2025 9 AM

Light breakfast items provided

Worship



St. Barnabas Church: Community Service &

Stained Glass Window Restoration Campaign

Please join us for our upcoming St. Barnabas community service on Saturday, June 21 at 10:00 am!! In case you haven't been to a service before, St. Barnabas is located at 1 St. Barnabas St. (Snow Hill, NC).

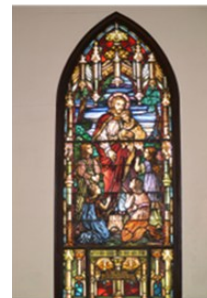
The Rev. Tom Warren, Rector of St. Mary's Episcopal Church in Kinston, will officiate the service and deliver the sermon. We will use the 1928 Book of Common Prayer which includes poetic language largely unchanged from its 1552 English counterpart.

St. Barnabas was designated an historic site in 1979. It is listed in the U.S. Department of Interior's Registry of National Historic Places and is featured by the Snow Hill Historic Preservation Commission in its tour of historic places. 2025 is the 141st year since the setting of St. Barnabas' cornerstone in 1884. The church was established as a mission of the Diocese of East Carolina several years earlier. The Rt. Rev. Alfred Augustine Watson, DD, First Bishop of the Diocese, consecrated the building in 1893.

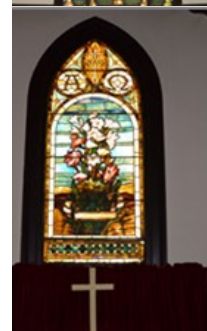
St. Barnabas maintenance is funded through contributions and from collections at services which are held on or near St. Barnabas Day, June 11, and in the fall of each year. Contributions via checks may be made payable to St. Barnabas and mailed to: Sandra Warren ~ 1103 Rhem St ~ Kinston, NC 28501.

Please join us June 21 at 10:00 a.m. and afterward for a time of fellowship and delicious drinks and sweets! Remember to come "dressed for the weather" as we have "natural air conditioning and heating!"

We are so looking forward to seeing you and enjoying fellowship following the liturgy.



We are pleased to share we are continuing our campaign to restore the wonderful stained glass windows of St. Barnabas!



We welcome all contributions, small or large...every bit helps!



Flowers in the Church

Altar flowers are floral arrangements placed at the altar to add beauty and meaning to our sacred space. They are expressions of glory to God in thanksgiving, honor, or remembrance of a loved one or event and enhance the beauty of the church and communal worship experience. There are openings in the summer schedule for Sunday altar flowers. If you are interested in participating, contact

Sherry Tanner by calling the Parish office (252-523-6146). You may also email her at stanner@stmaryskinston.com. If you have not participated, the process is easy, and Sherry will guide you through the arrangements step-by-step.



The Bishop Visit



On May 18th, St. Mary's welcomed Bishop Skirving to both liturgies. That morning, we celebrated 1 Baptism, 18 Confirmations, 2 Receptions, and 10 Reaffirmations of Faith! Thank you to everyone who made this day so special in the life of our parish!

Children, Youth, & Families @ St. Mary's

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Sunday, June 22- Thursday, June 26
5:00-7:30pm

at

St. Mary's Episcopal Church
800 Rountree St Kinston, NC



There is still time to enroll your child in an AMAZING VBS event at St. Mary's this summer! Partnering with First Presbyterian, Westminster, and Queen Street United Methodist, we will offer a FIVE DAY evening VBS for children Pre-K through rising 5th grade. Children will learn about God's faithfulness and presence in our lives, wherever we may go! There will be meals, singing, learning, playing, and creating in a loving, safe environment. Adult and teen volunteers needed, so be sure to sign up for that opportunity as well!

For information or to register, scan the QR code or visit our website at:

<https://stmaryskinston.mycokesburyvbs.com>



CONGRATULATIONS to those who have been formed in the Christian faith at St. Mary's as they celebrate graduation milestones in their lives! We celebrate all the ways God has blessed the Class of 2025 and our community because of them.

We look forward to how God calls them in the days to come. Please join us on **Sunday, June 8**, when we will honor our graduates during the 10:30am service.

ARENDELL PARROTT ACADEMY

Eliza Grady ~ (North Carolina State University)
Carolina Jones ~ (California Institute of Technology)

NORTH LENOIR HIGH SCHOOL

Jackson "Jack" Herring ~ (East Carolina University)

FURMAN UNIVERSITY

Becca "Bex" Herlong
Bachelor of Arts in English Writing & French

NORTH CAROLINA STATE UNIVERSITY

Rebecca Brown
Masters Degree in Accounting



Join us as we celebrate the leaders of the previous year and discuss what went well and what we might seek to change for the fall. There will be breakfast-type snacks. We offering thanksgivings for this past year's Christian Formation Leaders for Children & Youth:

Nursery Staff: Tanya Edwards, Lauren Burkett, Krystal Johnson, Stephanie Kollock, Samantha Thornton, Amanda Shirley

Junior Faith Academy: Dacie Edwards, Andra Haddad, Marissa Howard, Vicki Kennedy, Amanda Shirley, Margaret Spaugh, Sherry Tanner, Bethany McKissick, Mara Moya

Senior Faith Academy: Megan Fader, Andra Haddad, Vicki Kennedy, Mara Moya, Sherry Tanner

EYC: Tyndall Davis, Corey Fader, Jessica Shimer, Ginny Wade, Tyndall Davis, Dacie Edwards, Sherry Tanner, Barbara Crumbacker, Tyler Nute



On May 18th, St. Mary's Nursery School celebrated 50 years of ministry! With special music by the children, a blessing from Fr. Tom, a history of early years by Betty DeVeau, a look at the current years by Madison Mills, photos, momentos, and a warm reception, it was JOYful day! Thank you to everyone who shared in this wonderful celebration!

St. Mary's Episcopal Church
800 Rountree Street
Kinston, NC 28501-3655



Mark Your Calendars!

We are excited to announce the date for our Annual St. Mary's Block Party, planned for **Sunday, September 28th, 2025!** Remember to mark your calendars and make plans to join us as WE host an evening of fellowship with the members and neighbors of St. Mary's Episcopal Church. More information coming soon!

SUNDAYS

(Staffed childcare available 8:45am-Noon)

8:00 am - Holy Eucharist: Rite 1 in the All Saints' Chapel

10:30 am - Holy Eucharist: Rite 2 in the Church
 (livestreamed to YouTube and shared in Facebook)

11:45 am - Lemonade on the Lawn under the Breezeway Arches

TUESDAYS & THURSDAYS

8:30 am - Morning Prayer in the All Saints' Chapel

WEDNESDAYS

7:00 am - Men's Prayer & Bible Group in Moseley Hall

ST. MARY'S VESTRY

2025	2026	2027
Andrew Duppstadt	Richard Crumbacker	Rob Bizzell
Bonnie Holton	Corey Fader	Frances Herring
Anne Lindley	Randy Spaugh	Sarah Warner
Jim Purnell	Kay Turner	Harry Wooten

Senior Warden – Bonnie Holton
 Junior Warden – Richard Crumbacker

Clerk – Andrew Duppstadt
 Treasurer – Jess Edwards