



St. Mary's Episcopal Church

800 Rountree Street
Kinston, North Carolina 28501



The Annual Report
of St. Mary's Episcopal Church
December 8, 2024

Organizational Statements of St. Mary's Episcopal Church

MOTTO/SLOGAN – A tagline about a central characteristic of our Christian community that can be easily shared with others.

“St. Mary’s: Serving with JOY” (Jesus first, Others second, Yourself last)

CORE VALUES of St. Mary’s Episcopal Church

Christ-Centered and Kingdom-Oriented in our teaching and purpose for mission.

Anglican Tradition frames our liturgy and theology.

Loving God and Neighbor is at the heart of all of our actions.

Alive in the Holy Spirit – seeking God’s active presence in directing our efforts and resources towards building the Kingdom of God.

MISSION STATEMENT – A description of what we do. (Note: *Theotokos* is the name Mary is known by in Greek, literally meaning “God-bearer”)

The mission of St. Mary’s Episcopal Church is to bear God’s Good News through joyful worship, Christ-centered teaching, compassionate care, and intentional relationships.

VISION STATEMENT – A description of what we sense God is calling us to become.

Through the love of Jesus, St. Mary’s will be a joy-filled Christian community for all individuals through:

- **inspired joy-filled worship in the Anglican tradition**
- **faithful apostolic teaching that feeds the mind and soul**
- **compassionate response to the needs of all, with special focus on the needs of the aged, children, and those in crisis**
- **partnerships with neighboring faith communities and others**
- **meaningful relationships with the neighborhood**
- **honoring God in rhythms of work and rest, and in the intentional use of all resources**

These statements were approved by the Vestry of St. Mary’s at its November 19, 2018 Meeting and reaffirmed in January 2024. They are available on our website (www.stmaryskinston.com/resources/useful-links). Because they reflect our sense of who God is calling us to be in this season of our ministry together, they are significant guides to the work of the Vestry, Long Range Planning Committee, and other committees of this church.

REPORT OF THE RECTOR

As I concluded the Rector's Report last year, I wrote "we close 2023 at what I and many others at St. Mary's perceive to be a momentous time along our path of discerning long-term mission priorities for us as a church community." Indeed, this has proved to be true for our times together in 2024 in many ways! Not only have we continued to discern and refine God's call for our ministries, but we have lived into those callings in wonderful ways.

Our commitment to proclaim the Good News of Jesus in word and deed must always be our foundation and priority. So we celebrate that our basic rhythms of "continuing in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of the bread, and in the prayers" as our Baptismal Covenant puts it from Acts 2:42, is where we will always start. It is from that starting point that we have stepped out in faith this year, in remarkable ways, to follow through with the visions that we sense God has given.

This year, our own Jon Sargeant was ordained as a Deacon on May 25 and will be ordained, God willing, to the priesthood later today! This year, a season of ministry has begun with Sam Holt as our Minister of Music with the choir and music ministries immediately growing to welcome new members. This year marked the 40th anniversary of Mary's Kitchen, where, with the leadership of Executive Director, Jim Godfrey; the Board of Directors; and incredible devotion of staff and volunteers, over 150 people are provided a daily, warm, nutritious meal, AND the kitchen was fully renovated with new appliances, walls & floors, and stained glass art (provided by St. Mary's artists Bonnie Smith, Seraphim Smith, and Renée Herlong). This year, we begin celebrating the 50th Anniversary of the St. Mary's Nursery School, where the traditions begun by its first Director, Mary Jane Bright, and many church members continue with the faithful, loving, and wise leadership of current Director, Madison Mills, and her staff. This year, God led 8 people (ranging from 2 months to 81 years old) to be baptized at St. Mary's on All Saints' Sunday - the most people that have been baptized in our community on a single day since February 21, 1982 when Bishop Hunley Elebash and Fr. John Russell celebrated the baptisms of 10 people!

And today, we are thankful that after a few 'punch-list' items are completed, the indoor accessibility part of our RISE with JOY Capital Campaign projects is complete and fully functional! This project has provided accessible restrooms and created a level pathway between the sanctuary, the Moseley Hall corridor, and the classroom corridor, dramatically improving access for those with mobility limitations. We are incredibly grateful for the skill and care of Skip Greene's Group III Management team who has carried this work out so well. Special thanks are also due to Anne Lindley and Jo Parrott, with the efforts of many friends, who aided in special projects along the way, as well as for Jess Edwards, Steve Mazingo, Walter Poole, the Capital Campaign Committees & every donor, the Rev. Ron Abrams, the Hospitality & Indoor Property Task Groups, Wes McClure, Edgar Carr, Chuck Wade, and our many Vestry members whose prayer, creativity, discernment, gifts, and work

over the years have led to these results that exceed our initial high hopes & expectations.

To God be the Glory!

As we look ahead to 2025, we are prepared to take the next steps towards accomplishing the outdoor part of the campaign projects: constructing a new Outdoor Learning and Play Center on the Parish Commons (formerly called the West Lawn) and removing the existing playground. This will be the first part of developing a vibrant natural space for play, worship, walking, meditation, and fellowship: a true “commons” that welcomes all who call St. Mary’s home or who may otherwise be drawn to this community. May countless people be blessed by a closer relationship with Jesus through these projects!

The reports that follow are remarkable in their description of how God’s Holy Spirit has inspired and motivated this part of Christ’s universal church into action. Thank you to our Vestry members, Wardens & Officers, and every person who has participated in the life of faith at St. Mary’s. As you read these reports, I hope that you will give thanks for the ways that God has led, encouraged, comforted, and provided for us in the past. Won’t you also ask God to make clear how you are called to make this community live into what it is called to be and do in the coming year? I remain grateful to share in this life with you.

In the joy of knowing and serving Jesus,



Tom Warren, Rector

REPORT OF THE SENIOR WARDEN

Serving as your Senior Warden for 2024 has been an honor and I thank you for your confidence and the privilege to do so.

As we started 2024, the Long Range Planning and Capital Campaign Committees were working hard to bring the multi-year long range planning process to the next step. In March we kicked off our 2024 RISE with JOY Capital Campaign with a wonderful luncheon and began demolition on the indoor accessibility project over the summer. I want to extend great thanks to the Long Range Planning and Capital Campaign Committees and all others who have spent countless hours working on this project. At the time of writing this report, we are but days away from having a completed indoor project, and looking forward to starting the outdoor project in the spring. At the outset of this project, I shared with the Vestry some inspiration from a good friend and mentor of mine, Sammy Hudson, Executive Director of The Refuge. “Our God is a Great God and he gives us Great visions, most times larger than we can understand and tougher than we can complete on our own.” Let us continue to walk with faith into the vision that God has given us.

Alpha Course 2024 was an amazing experience for our church family with wonderful food and fellowship. Our Sunday school program for adults has been very engaging, and our new format for Children and Youth Ministries has been well attended and well received. Many thanks to all the volunteers and staff that have made this first half of the Christian Formation program year a success.

There have been many new faces at St Mary's this year and too many baptisms for me to count, what joy it is to celebrate and share life with our diverse church family. We have also experienced great loss this year within our church family, and what comfort is brought by living through these times together. May all these things, joyful and sorrowful, continue to bind us together in Christ.

As we look forward to 2025, I am filled with excitement and hope, to see the work that is happening in and around our Parish, and the momentum that is building within our Parish Family.

Grace and Peace,
Jess Edwards, Senior Warden

REPORT OF THE JUNIOR WARDEN

This year, many buildings and grounds projects apart from our Capital Campaign projects have been addressed, and completed, to ensure that our congregation can “live, move, and have our being” at St. Mary's. In particular, I am proud to report that Curtis Construction has significantly repaired the church's roof, from Moseley Hall to the Sanctuary. With those repairs having been made, focus has shifted to the installation of a fire alarm system and a door security system, which have been approved and work should be commencing in the very near future.

Additionally, with the help of many, we have been able to accomplish the following: (i) fill in a pot hole on the Parish Commons driveway; (ii) maintain beautification of the Church grounds; (iii) replace sump pump in the basement; (iv) clean the vent hood in the kitchen; (v) install gutter caps and diverters in St. Francis' Garden and around the church; (vi) install gutter downspout extensions; (vii) clean and paint the large exterior lamps outside the church's main West Doors; (viii) pressure wash the front of the Church building; (ix) clean and re-letter the main church sign; (x) clean the air vents and corresponding walls and windows in the Sanctuary and the Chapel; (xi) pressure wash the Outdoor Chapel; (xii) complete remodel of the Parlor; and (xiii) painting our Moseley Hall and classroom hallways.

Special thanks are in order to Ronnie Taylor and his staff (especially Levi Wentz, Christian Hengst, and Nita Rouse), Jo Parrott, Anne Lindley, Dennis Riddell, Richard Crumbacker, and Robin & Carl Simms for their regular and careful attention to our parish home. And we will always miss Susan Fox's unique love for our church home.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve the Parish of St. Mary's as its Junior Warden!

Respectfully Submitted,
Jim Purnell, Junior Warden

REPORT OF THE TREASURER

Our Year-To-Date (YTD) Revenue & Expense Report for the ten months ending October 31, 2024 are included in this report (See pages 17-19).

First, I would like to thank Fr. Tom Warren, Lori Kelly, Rob Bizzell, Jess Edwards, and the Finance Commission for their support in my role as Treasurer. They have supported me every step of the way in my two years as Treasurer of St. Mary's.

Let's jump into the numbers. On the revenue side, our pledges for 2024 totaled \$478,261 which was just under our pledges for 2023 which totaled \$500,000. We are thankful for your generous and dedicated support of St. Mary's this year.

Through October 31, 2024 we have received \$392,927 in pledged funds and we hope to receive the remaining \$85,333 in pledged funds in November and December as in years past.

The annual budget which was approved by the Vestry in January included using approximately \$82,523 in permitted investment funds in order to meet a total annual budget of \$657,457. Our budget has a surplus of \$133 over planned expenses.

On the expense side, the vast majority of our operating expenses for this year are currently running at or below budget. Our target YTD expense percentage reporting from the end of October is 83.3%. Our actual expenses YTD ending in October shows expenses at 73.7% of our budget.

In summary for 2024, at least through October 31, our expenses have exceeded our income by \$8,515.35. However, our remaining pledged income in addition to our planned year-end transfers from investments should more than make up for this deficiency. In summation, we are in a good position to finish 2024 in line with our initial budget projections.

We have already begun the process of discussing our budget for next year, and in that regard, if you have not submitted your 2025 Estimate of Giving card, please help us with our planning by turning this information in to the church office as soon as possible. To date, we have received a total of 76 commitments for a pledged amount of \$410,470.

It has been an honor to represent St. Mary's as your Treasurer this year and I look forward to another financially healthy and productive year in 2025.

Respectfully Submitted,
Corey Fader, Treasurer

REPORT OF THE LONG RANGE PLANNING COMMITTEE

This year the Long-Range Planning Committee has focused on two of the four long range goals. These were “Inspiring Worship,” and “Church Property.” After a very successful Capital Campaign, construction began on the accessibility plan for the inside of the church. I am very pleased to report that the new hallway and bathrooms will soon be open for use. Many thanks go to Skip Greene and his Construction Foreman and the many hard-working crews that have made this happen. The goal for any renovation to our church was to make it appear as if it could have been part of the original construction’s plan. That has been accomplished with this portion of the construction. The second phase consisting of the new children’s play area is about to begin. It has been a very exciting year for improvements to our beloved St. Mary’s.

Members of the Music Task Force assisted with the very successful search and welcoming of Sam Holt as our new Minister of Music. We all have enjoyed the music programming that Sam has provided for us. We also are very thankful for his work with our greatly expanded choir. Please remember to lift your voice and sing during the services!

We all have much important work to do and ask for your prayers as we continue to address our goals and strategies.

Respectfully Submitted,
Steve Mazingo, Committee Chair

REPORT OF THE WORSHIP COMMISSION

As a new member of the Vestry and Chair of the Worship Commission, I have learned so much about all the time, talent, and love that goes into making St Mary’s a great place to worship and I feel so blessed that I am a part of it. The leadership of Father Tom, the support of the Vestry members as well as church members has been amazing. It really is a team effort to carry out the church’s Mission of JOY!

We mourned the loss of our beloved and dear friend and parishioner, Susan Fox, who lovingly dedicated her time and skills to St Mary’s, especially with worship. She always made sure every detail was perfect for worship and was always available to help when needed in any capacity. Jo Parrott has graciously taken on the role as Altar Guild Chair, which plays a major role in all our services.

Noteworthy worship offerings of our year include the following:

- This year we celebrated the Good News of Jesus, the Christ, with a glorious Easter Day celebration. Throughout the seasons and Ordinary Times of the year, we have worshiped together at vibrant and joy-filled 8:00am and 10:30am Sunday morning services, Tuesday and Thursday Morning Prayer, occasional mid-week Feast Day Eucharists, Compline, Evensong, a Pet Blessing, All Saints Evensong, Christmas

Lessons and Carols, a hymn sing in the sanctuary, Stations of the Cross during Lent, Home Blessings on the Feast of the Epiphany, a sermon series on the Letter to the Ephesians, a “Bake and Pray” baking liturgy workshop with Kendall Vanderslice, celebration of the Feast of St. Mary on Homecoming Sunday, and our amazing Boar’s Head Festival and Renaissance Banquet. We have worshiped together in our beautiful sanctuary, our beloved All Saints’ Chapel, St. Francis Garden, St Barnabas Church (Snow Hill), and in the life-giving open air of our Parish Commons. We shared the blessings of life in Christ at heartfelt baptisms, weddings, funerals, graduation celebrations, a Consecration Sunday service, and the ordination of Jon Sargeant to the Priesthood.

- We welcomed Sam Holt as the new Minister of Music, whose first Sunday was June 9th. We are thankful to have had Sylvia Wall as our Interim Organist. We are also grateful to have had four Choral Scholars at various points throughout the year.
- The Worship Commission met occasionally to plan for each upcoming season.
- We give thanks for the faithful and dedicated labors of our Eucharistic Ministers, Lectors, Altar Guild, Acolytes, Musicians, Choirs, Hand Bell players, Ushers-Greeters, and Livestream Technology Ministers who serve with great dedication and care in creating and supporting our liturgies on Sunday and other special occasions, and behind the scenes throughout the year. Training for Eucharistic Ministers and Visitors, Lectors, Acolytes, Altar Guild members, and Usher-Greeters were held during the year as needed.
- Our youth continue to enhance the liturgies and serve with energy and dedication. At St. Mary’s, youth serve as Usher-Greeters, Musicians, Acolytes, and Livestream Technology Ministers. We are grateful that God has called so many people of every generation to this community!

And finally, we offer our thanks and gratitude to each of you, our St. Mary’s family. For your generous gifts of time and talent, for your loving and dedicated service, and for your humor, resourcefulness, and endless support of our worship ministries. We offer you our humble “Thank You!” We are thankful for our moments together in worship, labor, and community.

Offer our thanks and praise of all the blessings of this life in Christ and thankfully submitted,
Kay Turner, Commission Chair

REPORT OF THE MINISTER OF MUSIC

First of all I would like to express my gratitude and appreciation to the congregation and staff of St. Mary’s for your warm reception and support for my work as Minister of Music. It has been a joy to work among you as I continue to serve the needs of the congregation.

Much is happening in the music ministry of St. Mary’s. The choir, when everyone is in attendance, has grown to approximately twenty people! We have four choral scholar

positions one for each division - and fortunately two of those positions are currently filled by two very gifted musicians: Emmalee Kennermore (soprano) and Christian Cortez (bass). I am currently searching for an alto and tenor to complete that ensemble. Choir rehearsals are conducted between 7:30 and 9:00 each Wednesday evening and again each Sunday morning between 9:30 and 10:00. I made the change in rehearsal time on Wednesday to accommodate those people who have busy workday schedules. A future plan is to offer on a consistent schedule an optional choir rehearsal once a month following the 10:30am service for those who cannot attend Wednesday rehearsals.

Our handbell choir has continued to grow as well with rehearsals each Wednesday at 5:30pm. We have provided music twice since the fall and we look forward to ringing again in the spring. As with the St. Mary's choir, everyone is invited to join. The ability to read music is helpful but certainly not a prerequisite to adding your joy to the music ministries of the church.

The Music Task Group met in early fall to continue identifying hymns that facilitate congregational singing and will meet again soon after the Christmas season to continue in this invaluable service. This group has been extremely helpful to me by identifying hymns loved by the congregation. I am looking forward to continuing to work in ways to encourage robust singing each Sunday!

With the RISE with JOY accessibility project at St. Mary's, we have had the opportunity to examine how our spaces can be utilized better. The previous choir room is a bit small to comfortably accommodate fifteen or more singers, so we have begun rehearsing in the sanctuary on Wednesday evenings. The added advantages are that it is better to practice in the sanctuary where we actually sing on Sundays and that we will now have a room to meet the needs of our elementary-aged children ministry. Once my office is organized after construction is complete, my office, along with the old choir room, can be used for smaller sectional rehearsals resulting in better efficiency. The nine standing file cabinets once located in the old choir room are now in my office. Closets in the previous rehearsal space have been redesigned to accommodate music collections and sound equipment.

I want to express my appreciation to everyone involved in the music ministries at St. Mary's. Schola Cantorum, the Boar's Head choir consisting of many people in the community, choir members, bell ringers and all the other musicians who add so much to worship are integral to our vibrant and growing ministry. I look forward to the coming year and exploring ways to live fully into our liturgies in powerful and meaningful ways!

Respectfully Submitted,
Sam Holt, Minister of Music

REPORT OF THE CHRISTIAN FORMATION COMMISSION FOR ADULTS

A time for reflection of my first year on the Vestry, as the Chairperson for Christian Formation Commission for Adults. I was a bit apprehensive at first with taking this position. As you may know I am not one that likes to voluntarily address large crowds. After the shock wore off and I was assured by the few that nominated me, I made the adjustments and settled into position. Starting off was a little shaky, but Father Tom and Ginny Wade gave me great guidance.

We decided to host the Alpha Course this fall and, as in previous years, it was a huge success. Many thanks to all the Alpha Small Group hosts, the church staff who worked behind the scenes to help us be ready every week, and everyone who was a part of the Alpha Hospitality Team. I had wondered how being on a cook team would affect my overall learning experience from the program, however, we were intentional to pause our work so that we could also benefit from the Alpha videos and be fed spiritually too. I was able to bond with other church members in a way that I felt brought us all closer in friendship.

The Sunday morning and other Wednesday night programs came with a little more thought process and people contact. This is where I had to get outside of my comfort zone and invite people to lead various weekly sessions. To my surprise, most everyone was eager to help. Fr. Tom being my main supporter and contact, he gave me great leads to follow. Thank you to the following leaders who hosted Christian Formation offerings this year:

- Jess Edwards (series on “The Parables of Jesus” and “Jesus in the Old Testament”)
- Randy Spaugh (Lenten series on “Spirituality of the Desert Fathers & Mothers” and Fall series on “The Four Gospels”)
- Barbara Crumbacker (Easter Series on “The Resurrection of Jesus” using RightNow Media)
- Vicki Kennedy (Fall series on “The Formation of the Biblical Canon”)
- Fr. Tom Warren (various series including “Ministration at the Time of Death & Funeral Preparation,” “Practicing Advent,” and “The Boar’s Head & Yule Log Festival”)
- Barbara Crumbacker, Pam Mazingo, Ron Michalowicz, Tyler Nute, Ginny Wade,
- The Long Range Planning Committee on updates on our various projects

To sum everything up, as I reflect back on the past year, I was able to come out of my comfort zone and accomplish great things within the church. So, thanks to all for entrusting me with this role!

Respectfully Submitted,
Richard Crumbacker, Commission Chair

REPORT OF THE CHRISTIAN FORMATION COMMISSION FOR CHILDREN & YOUTH

The St. Mary's parish family is blessed to include people of all ages and generations, including so many adult leaders who are called to be a part of ministries with the children and youth among us!

In the first part of 2024, our Family Ministry Coordinator, Liz Hengst, continued to offer many opportunities for our children and youth to be involved in liturgies, conversations about faith, and activities inside and outside of the church walls to show that the life of faith is meant to be shown in service and love of others.

Over the summer, our children enjoyed another exciting Vacation Bible School, this year hosted by Westminster United Methodist Church and in partnership with First Presbyterian Church. St. Mary's will be hosting VBS in the summer of 2025, so please be on the lookout for registration information and many opportunities to help host!

Our youth went on a summer Mission Trip to Virginia Beach that included SO much fun, fellowship, outreach mission work with Eastern Shore Chapel's youth and Food Pantry, a boat tour of Naval Station Norfolk and Norfolk Tides baseball game, visits to Historic St. Paul's Episcopal Church (Norfolk) and Cape Henry's First Landing where the first Anglican Eucharistic liturgy was celebrated in 1607, all with the foundation of the daily office's rhythms of prayer and reflection! Thank you to chaperones Jane Brothers, Mark Moore, Sherry Tanner, and Fr. Tom. We are also excited about an EYC return to Glory Ridge in 2025 in the summer, as well as an Easter Retreat for anyone in the church family!

Youth from St. Mary's continue to engage and lead in diocesan ministries. Madi Hengst and Jayden Wright served this year on the diocesan East Carolina Youth Council and represented St. Mary's at Diocesan Convention. Many youth went to Winter Retreat, Happenings, New Beginnings, and Fall Conference; and Jayden Wright also went to the SUMMA Theological Debate Society & Summer Camp at Sewanee as well as the Province IV Youth Leadership and Networking Meeting.

In the fall, new programs and children/youth age group offerings were provided with so many adults joining in as teachers and supporters of these ministries. The "Cradle" is our staffed baby and toddler nursery. Pre-K through 2nd graders make up the Junior Faith Academy and older elementary children are the Senior Faith Academy. Middle and high schoolers are the Episcopal Youth Community (EYC). Sunday mornings were opportunities to engage with the Scriptures that would be read in worship that day through the "Spark!" and "Feasting on the Word" lectionary curricula. Wednesday nights offered "Youth Alpha" for EYC while younger children enjoyed music ministries (led by Mara Moye) and Game Nights! EYC also continued to enjoy regular visits to Middle Grounds for EYC Coffee throughout the year.

A renewed effort to grow our Childcare Staff has resulted in a team of 6 who care for our youngest and support the programming of our two elementary age groups. We are grateful to have Valentina Bassett, Lauren Burkett, Krystal Johnson, Stephanie Kollock, and Samantha Thornton, led by Tanya Edwards. During the process of expanding this team, the efforts of our Personnel Committee and the childcare ministries of Audra Haddad, Vicki Kennedy, Mara Moye, and Margaret Spaugh were invaluable.

These ministries would not be possible without the efforts of our members who met the Safe Church standards for youth and children programs. Thank you to Jane Brothers, Barbara Crumbacker, Richard Crumbacker, Tyndall Davis, Andrew Dupstadt, Dacie Edwards, Corey Fader, Megan Fader, Audra Haddad, Marissa Howard, Vicki Kennedy, Bethany McKissick, Mara Moye, Tyler Nute, Jo Parrott, Margaret Spaugh, Sherry Tanner, and Ginny Wade!

Finally, Sherry Tanner has led a partnership between St. Mary's Church and the St. Mary's Nursery School (SMNS) that has included offering hospitality to SMNS families through food and conversation at the SMNS Open House dates, special gifts to SMNS teachers, and intentional invitations to the SMNS community for worship and many events and programs of the church. A highlight among these activities included the Trunk-or-Treat being offered by St. Mary's Church and SMNS leaders this year!

Respectfully Submitted,

Fr. Tom Warren and Andrew Dupstadt, Commission Chair

REPORT OF THE OUTREACH COMMISSION

“Repent” is a word that we often use and seldom understand. It usually means saying “I am sorry” about something we have said or expressing remorse about something we have done. Biblical scholars have generally said that this poorly represents the scriptural text. “Metanoia” is the word used in the Biblical text. Meta means “beyond” or “outside of;” and the word “noeo” means “thinking” or “perception.” Put the two words together and you have the word “metanoia.”

Now think about it. Repent is something we are supposed to do, or someone else is supposed to do if we are the judgemental type. Metanoia is something that can only be done to us. We can be loved, cherished, eternally cared for, and taught only by a power greater than ourselves. We can be loved in this way only by our Jesus. Jesus is not to be feared but to be seen as the one who will lead us closer to the Holy.

Every Outreach worker is busy teaching and exemplifying that each person is loved by the Almighty and us. It is so sad to feel that God is out to get you.

There are so many of our people helping others feel loved by Jesus and his people. At the same time the “others” I spoke of are being helped to grow toward the Holy by adjusting their thinking and their perceptions.

I am so proud of what I see happening at St Mary’s. Every member is different with different talents and gifts. It is hard to visit Mary’s Kitchen without finding members of this church involved in feeding those visiting. St. Mary’s Church provides the leadership for this endeavor. Meals were provided for the teams working with Habitat for Humanity as well. Several adults spent time at Glory Ridge helping with Hurricane Helene relief in Marshall, NC, delivering a flatbed trailer-full of winter clothing that church-members gave... after already sending a monetary love-offering and initial supply drive.

There were those who reached out to community children. There were those who worked with St. Mary’s Nursery School and Director Madison Mills. Under the direction of Becky Darst several of our members have been involved in tutoring and reading to children at our neighborhood Northwest Elementary School.

St. Mary’s opened itself to the immediate community of the church with the “Block Party” and “Trunk-Or-Treat” events.

The Advent and Christmas season will give us many more opportunities to reach others with the love of Jesus.

Respectfully Submitted,
Dr. Randy Spaugh, Commission Chair

REPORT OF THE PASTORAL CARE COMMISSION

The Pastoral Care Commission celebrates many ministries. It touches many, if not all, parishioners whether they are recipients or compassionate givers of care. This commission is surrounded in love, empathy, and quietude.

The Baptismal Ministry continues to offer love and support to the families of children and adults who are anticipating a baptism. It is with joy that I report, St. Mary’s celebrated twelve baptisms this year. Gifts of hand-made dolls and personalized baptismal towels are given to newly baptized children. Immediately following each ceremony, a reception is held to introduce and welcome them into our church family and the life of Christ. All parishioners are invited and encouraged to attend. These occasions are made more special thanks to the hard work and dedication of Becky Darst, Ginny Wade, and Sherry Tanner.

Each Christmas and Easter service at St. Mary’s the sanctuary is decorated with live poinsettias and lilies. Following the last holiday service, these beautiful plants are lovingly distributed to various cherished members and those on the pastoral care list as part of the

loyal work of the Altar Guild. When possible, altar flowers are distributed in a similar manner.

Our faithful members of the Prayer Shawl Ministry continue to share their talents. This committed group meets every Tuesday at noon at the Queen Street Deli to knit shawls and baby blankets that remind the recipients of the prayers of support and God's presence with them.

The "Cards, Casseroles, and Caring" ministry of St. Mary's Episcopal Church Women supports homebound members with cards each month reminding them that they are remembered and loved by their parish family. Casseroles are delivered to families in need of support due to surgery, illness, birth of a child or loss of a loved one. These cards and casseroles are ways of showing love to our church family. Monthly signups for this ministry allow many parishioners to be involved in spreading this love.

The Lay Eucharistic Visitor ministry provides communion to homebound members. Fr. Tom is glad to offer training to all who are interested in learning more about bringing communion to homebound parishioners.

Cherished Member Lunches are a heart-warming time for food and fellowship. This mid-day lunch is a wonderful time for our senior members to break bread together with friends. A team of cooks and supporters welcomes everyone with beautiful seasonal table decorations and a delicious meal on the first Thursday of most months during our program year.

So many members of St. Mary's support the various ministries of our church with countless individual acts of love and devotion. I am thankful and grateful for each of you and may God continue to bless you in your faithfulness.

Respectfully Submitted,
Anne Lindley, Commission Chair

REPORT OF THE FELLOWSHIP COMMISSION

We had had an amazing year of fellowship at St. Marys! We had many delicious Sunday morning breakfasts homemade by the men of the church during the year. Over the summer we were blessed to have Lemonade on the Lawn after church on Sundays. The Wednesday night suppers put together by many members of our church throughout the year were amazing and a great time for fellowship. During the Lenten season, the ECW helped to prepare the suppers which was a wonderful blessing. We had a great time with wonderful fellowship with our parish during our Block Party which is both outreach and fellowship and thanks to all who made it such a great success. There were about 12 in attendance at this year's Shackleford Banks day trip in which persons of all ages were able to spend great fellowship, food, and fun with each other and we hope to continue this as a yearly adventure!

Our annual Night at the Ballpark was another joyful time and even featured St. Mary's members participating in on-the-field fun in between innings and a walk-off extra-innings win for the Wood Ducks! We have also been blessed to have many baptisms and celebrations of baptisms with a reception after the service where fellowship and welcoming of new members was able to occur! Thank you to all who have made this year such a blessing of fellowship!

Respectfully Submitted,
Ginny Wade, Commission Chair

REPORT OF THE FINANCE COMMISSION

The Saint Mary's Investments Committee and Trustees interviewed three investment companies to make sure we're getting our best bang for the buck. We decided to keep our investments with our current firm: Warner, Hood, Hardee, and Stroud. Not only do they generate a respectable return on investment, they facilitated a line of credit that would be available for our RISE with JOY Capital Campaign projects, if we should need one. We also have started using a sweep account to leverage our ability to make higher returns on our bank accounts. This is resulting in notably increased returns. The Finance Commission, as I believe, is acting in a responsible manner for the funds at St. Mary's. The attached financials are relatively current. That should give you an idea of our standing.

Respectfully Submitted,
Rob Bizzell, Commission Chair

REPORT OF THE PERSONNEL COMMISSION

This year we continue to be exceedingly blessed by the support of our full-time office and maintenance personnel. Parish Administrator, Lori Kelly, continues to do an outstanding job maintaining the daily operation of St. Mary's and making every caller and visitor feel welcome. Our Communications Director, Sherry Tanner, has kept all members updated with weekly emails, beautiful monthly Bell Ringer editions, and our Sunday bulletins. Our Custodian, Ronnie Taylor, continues to help keep our building in good shape, even during the messiness of our renovations. He has a new employee, Nita Rouse, caring for our building who is doing an excellent job.

Jim Godfrey's leadership as the Executive Director at Mary's Kitchen is outstanding, as always, including successful fundraising, organizing donations of food and supplies and recruitment of volunteers to serve at the kitchen every day of the week.

Our new Minister of Music, Sam Holt, who joined us in June, has been a wonderful addition to our staff and is leading the choir and congregation in beautiful, inspiring music.

With the hiring of 2 new Childcare Staff this fall, we now have 6 staff working on a rotating basis so that we have 4 staff for each Sunday and Wednesday, and 2 back-up staff in case of emergency. A luncheon was held recently for all Childcare Staffmembers and church members who serve in children's ministries so that they could get to know each other and form good working relationships in our Junior and Senior Faith Academy groups.

After the departure of Liz Hengst in May, our former Family Ministry Coordinator, we have had many adult volunteers working together to provide programming for our youth while the Vestry and Fr. Tom are prayerfully discerning our path for the future.

We are truly blessed at St. Mary's to have such dedicated individuals to support our efforts in spreading the JOY!

Respectfully Submitted,
Bonnie Holton, Commission Chair

REPORT OF THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH WOMEN

The ECW had an exciting year full of fun! We had many greatly attended events. There were approximately 25 women (and a few men who tagged along!) to enjoy watching the movie "Young Woman and the Sea" about Gertrude Ederle who became the first woman to swim across the English channel. The Lenten suppers were put together by the ECW and were a blessing for Wednesday nights. We had lots of laughs and giggles playing many games on our game night which had about 20 women in attendance and we want to give a special "Thank You!" to Becky Darst for sharing her game knowledge with us! We also were blessed to serve at Mary's Kitchen in October. Our annual bulb sale was again a great success! We have finished off the year with an amazingly attended (at least 40 women) oyster art experience, in which we made oyster nativity scenes and had a blast! We are excited to see what 2025 has to offer for the women of St. Marys!

Respectfully Submitted,
Ginny Wade

***St. Mary's Episcopal Church**
YTD Vestry Rev-Exp Detail
January to October 2024

Note: The Report Option to include Open Transactions is selected.

Accounts	MTD Actual (This Year)	YTD Actual (This Year)	Annual Budget (This Year)	% of Annual Budget Used (This Year)	YTD Actual (Last Year)
Revenues					
Non-Pledge Donations					
1750-000 - Non-Pledged Income	\$2,363.00	\$45,329.78	\$55,000.00	82.42 %	\$36,972.83
1751-000 - Plate Offerings	\$218.00	\$3,210.10	\$3,500.00	91.72 %	\$3,197.00
Total Non-Pledge Donations	\$2,581.00	\$48,539.88	\$58,500.00	82.97 %	\$40,169.83
Pledge Payments					
1752-00A - Previous Year Pledge	\$0.00	\$4,300.00	\$0.00	0.00 %	\$5,280.00
1752-00B - Current Year Pledge	\$27,562.00	\$388,627.11	\$478,261.00	81.26 %	\$383,658.95
Total Pledge Payments	\$27,562.00	\$392,927.11	\$478,261.00	82.16 %	\$388,938.95
Miscellaneous Income					
1756-01A - Day School Rent	\$1,398.50	\$10,127.00	\$12,200.00	83.01 %	\$9,447.70
1756-01B - Miscellaneous Income	\$955.51	\$13,380.13	\$3,500.00	382.29 %	\$3,463.49
1756-01C - Sunday Breakfast	(\$32.64)	\$972.66	\$1,250.00	77.81 %	\$1,246.41
1756-01E - Rectory rent Income	\$0.00	\$5,208.30	\$12,500.00	41.67 %	\$10,416.60
1756-01F - Soup Kitchen Salary	\$0.00	\$4,278.12	\$8,556.00	50.00 %	\$6,417.18
1756-01G - Processing Fees (Onli	\$59.95	\$661.50	\$300.00	220.50 %	\$0.00
Total Miscellaneous Income	\$2,381.32	\$34,627.71	\$38,306.00	90.40 %	\$30,991.38
Total Revenues	\$32,524.32	\$476,094.70	\$575,067.00	82.79 %	\$460,100.16
Expenses					
Personnel					
Clergy					
Rector					
1867-01A - Rector's Salary	\$5,595.48	\$55,954.80	\$67,146.00	83.33 %	\$55,954.78
1867-01B - Rector's Cont. Ed	\$0.00	\$1,800.00	\$1,800.00	100.00 %	\$1,800.00
1867-01C - Rector's FICA Fund	\$565.26	\$5,652.60	\$6,953.00	81.30 %	\$5,652.60
1867-01D - Rector's Housing/Utili	\$433.34	\$4,333.40	\$5,200.00	83.33 %	\$4,333.40
1867-01F - Rector's Travel	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,000.00	0.00 %	\$0.00
1867-01G - Rector' s Home Equity	\$100.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,200.00	83.33 %	\$1,000.00
1867-01M - Rector's Mobile Phone	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$600.00	0.00 %	\$0.00
1867-07A - Rector's Pension	\$1,540.01	\$15,400.10	\$19,000.00	81.05 %	\$15,400.10
1867-08A - Rector's Insurance	\$3,116.98	\$31,169.80	\$37,404.00	83.33 %	\$27,296.22
Total Rector	\$11,351.07	\$115,310.70	\$141,303.00	81.61 %	\$111,437.10
Other Clergy Expense					
1867-01J - Supply Clergy	\$312.99	\$3,762.15	\$3,500.00	107.49 %	\$1,628.41
1867-01N - Sabbatical (Parish)	\$0.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	100.00 %	\$2,341.72
1867-01P - Sabatical (Clergy)	\$0.00	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00	100.00 %	\$5,000.00
1867-30O - Assisting Clergy Travel	\$200.00	\$2,000.00	\$2,400.00	83.33 %	\$2,000.00
Total Other Clergy Expense	\$512.99	\$11,762.15	\$11,900.00	98.84 %	\$10,970.13
Total Clergy	\$11,864.06	\$127,072.85	\$153,203.00	82.94 %	\$122,407.23
Music Staff					
1867-03A - Choirmaster Salary	\$3,666.66	\$29,033.30	\$44,000.00	65.98 %	\$38,683.11
1867-03B - Choirmaster Cont. Ed.	\$0.00	\$700.00	\$700.00	100.00 %	\$700.00
Total Music Staff	\$3,666.66	\$29,733.30	\$44,700.00	66.52 %	\$39,383.11
Office Staff					
1867-04A - Parish Administrator	\$3,389.84	\$33,898.40	\$40,678.00	83.33 %	\$33,898.40
1867-04F - Soup Kitchen Director	\$1,426.04	\$14,260.40	\$17,112.00	83.34 %	\$14,260.40
1867-04G - Communications Direc	\$837.52	\$8,375.20	\$10,050.00	83.34 %	\$8,375.19
Total Office Staff	\$5,653.40	\$56,534.00	\$67,840.00	83.33 %	\$56,533.99
Youth and Education					
1867-05C - Family Ministry Coordi	\$0.00	\$11,317.70	\$27,163.00	41.67 %	\$22,635.41
1867-05D - FMC Cont. Education	\$0.00	\$169.08	\$500.00	33.82 %	\$500.00
1867-05E - FMC Housing	\$0.00	\$5,208.30	\$12,500.00	41.67 %	\$10,416.60
1867-05G - FMC Insurance	\$0.00	\$8,170.64	\$24,512.00	33.33 %	\$17,582.94
1867-05H - FMC Travel	\$0.00	\$633.82	\$1,500.00	42.25 %	\$1,130.53
Total Youth and Education	\$0.00	\$25,499.54	\$66,175.00	38.53 %	\$52,265.48

*St. Mary's Episcopal Church
YTD Vestry Rev-Exp Detail
January to October 2024

Note: The Report Option to include Open Transactions is selected.

Accounts	MTD Actual (This Year)	YTD Actual (This Year)	Annual Budget (This Year)	% of Annual Budget Used (This Year)	YTD Actual (Last Year)
Matching FICA					
1867-06B - Choirmaster	\$280.50	\$2,106.32	\$3,424.00	61.52 %	\$2,959.17
1867-06C - Parish Admin.	\$259.34	\$2,593.40	\$3,112.00	83.34 %	\$2,593.39
1867-06E - Family Ministry Coodina	\$0.00	\$1,264.20	\$3,034.00	41.67 %	\$2,528.40
1867-06G - Soup Kitchen Director	\$109.10	\$1,091.00	\$1,309.00	83.35 %	\$1,091.00
1867-06H - Communications Direc	\$64.06	\$640.60	\$769.00	83.30 %	\$640.61
Total Matching FICA	\$713.00	\$7,695.52	\$11,648.00	66.07 %	\$9,812.57
Total Personnel	\$21,897.12	\$246,535.21	\$343,566.00	71.76 %	\$280,402.38
Other Purposes Outside Parish					
1864-00A - Diocesan Pledge	\$4,828.33	\$48,283.30	\$57,940.00	83.33 %	\$43,525.00
1864-00B - St. Mary's Undesignat	\$893.08	\$2,143.08	\$1,500.00	142.87 %	\$1,711.78
Outreach					
1866-00A - ICOR	\$250.00	\$2,500.00	\$3,000.00	83.33 %	\$2,500.00
1866-00B - Rest Outrch (fm Endow	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$12,744.00	0.00 %	\$0.00
1866-00F - Rest Outrch (Xmas)	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$6,372.00	0.00 %	\$0.00
Total Outreach	\$250.00	\$2,500.00	\$22,116.00	11.30 %	\$2,500.00
Total Other Purposes Outside Parish	\$5,971.41	\$52,926.38	\$81,556.00	64.90 %	\$47,736.78
Other Ins. Premiums/Benefits					
1867-08D - Administrator's Annuity	\$305.09	\$3,050.90	\$3,661.00	83.34 %	\$3,050.90
1867-08E - Choirmaster's Annuity	\$330.00	\$1,650.00	\$4,029.00	40.95 %	\$3,576.35
1867-08I - FMC Annuity	\$0.00	\$1,487.35	\$3,570.00	41.66 %	\$2,974.70
Total Other Ins. Premiums/Benefits	\$635.09	\$6,188.25	\$11,260.00	54.96 %	\$9,601.95
Office Expense					
1867-10A - Office Supplies	\$180.30	\$2,881.34	\$4,300.00	67.01 %	\$3,504.59
1867-10C - Postage	\$214.99	\$1,585.70	\$2,750.00	57.66 %	\$2,350.43
1867-10F - Service Charges	\$72.50	\$1,674.29	\$1,250.00	133.94 %	\$1,025.72
Total Office Expense	\$467.79	\$6,141.33	\$8,300.00	73.99 %	\$6,880.74
Music, Choir Supplies					
1867-18A - Music & Accompanists	\$0.00	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00	100.00 %	\$4,812.23
1867-18B - Maintenance-Instrume	\$750.00	\$2,250.00	\$1,500.00	150.00 %	\$413.71
Total Music, Choir Supplies	\$750.00	\$7,250.00	\$6,500.00	111.54 %	\$5,225.94
Church Operations					
Utilities					
1867-09A - Electricity and Water	\$2,897.18	\$23,940.48	\$26,000.00	92.08 %	\$22,018.89
1867-09B - Natural Gas	\$105.49	\$2,517.20	\$5,000.00	50.34 %	\$4,639.67
1867-160 - Telephone & Internet	\$337.60	\$3,426.76	\$3,750.00	91.38 %	\$3,297.78
Total Utilities	\$3,340.27	\$29,884.44	\$34,750.00	86.00 %	\$29,956.34
Maint. of Property and Equip.					
Regular Maintenance					
1867-21A - Building and Grounds	\$2,619.01	\$36,107.30	\$43,500.00	83.01 %	\$38,460.46
1867-21B - Office Equipment Mai	\$607.13	\$8,071.30	\$11,000.00	73.38 %	\$9,111.87
1867-21C - Cleaning Supplies	\$464.19	\$1,899.42	\$3,000.00	63.31 %	\$2,459.98
1867-21H - Computer/Software u	\$226.95	\$496.84	\$2,000.00	24.84 %	\$1,306.99
1867-21J - Contract Maintenance	\$1,472.08	\$25,410.86	\$34,000.00	74.74 %	\$28,097.14
1867-21L - Long Term Maintenanc	\$0.00	\$20,000.00	\$20,000.00	100.00 %	\$0.00
Total Regular Maintenance	\$5,389.36	\$91,985.72	\$113,500.00	81.04 %	\$79,436.44
Total Maint. of Property and Equip.	\$5,389.36	\$91,985.72	\$113,500.00	81.04 %	\$79,436.44
Ministries					
1867-170 - Altar Guild	\$59.63	\$1,195.70	\$2,000.00	59.78 %	\$2,000.00
1867-30A - Christian Ed(Adults)	\$74.00	\$678.10	\$1,750.00	38.75 %	\$1,215.74
1867-30B - EYC - Jr. & Sr.	\$99.45	\$2,812.57	\$3,000.00	93.75 %	\$2,524.31
1867-30C - Hospitality(Recptns, etc	\$0.00	\$1,676.44	\$2,000.00	83.82 %	\$1,955.99
1867-30E - Nursery	\$1,563.13	\$8,895.61	\$12,500.00	71.16 %	\$10,861.57
1867-30F - Publications	\$0.00	\$305.00	\$375.00	81.33 %	\$306.00
1867-30H - Grad, Baptism & Confi	\$319.36	\$565.41	\$600.00	94.24 %	\$1,141.93
1867-30L - EYC Mission Trip	\$0.00	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00	100.00 %	\$0.00

***St. Mary's Episcopal Church
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1867-30M - Fellowship Meals	\$1,961.66	\$2,773.57	\$2,250.00	123.27 %	\$200.00
1867-30N - Alpha Program	\$1,028.46	\$1,914.69	\$2,000.00	95.73 %	\$0.00
1867-30P - Christian Ed(Children/	\$14.99	\$1,716.27	\$1,500.00	114.42 %	\$1,500.00
Total Ministries	\$5,120.68	\$24,033.36	\$29,475.00	81.54 %	\$21,705.54
Total Church Operations	\$13,850.31	\$145,903.52	\$177,725.00	82.10 %	\$131,098.32
Other Expenses					
1867-150 - Sales Tax - State	\$472.82	\$2,311.10	\$1,500.00	154.07 %	\$1,108.94
1867-151 - Sales Tax - County	\$15.56	\$152.74	\$350.00	43.64 %	\$362.50
1867-190 - Audit	\$0.00	\$584.98	\$500.00	117.00 %	\$534.72
1867-240 - General Insurance	\$626.00	\$18,755.90	\$23,000.00	81.55 %	\$22,532.14
1867-310 - Miscellaneous Expens	\$171.93	\$1,243.36	\$1,750.00	71.05 %	\$955.94
1867-380 - Vestry and Parish Retre	\$0.00	\$150.00	\$150.00	100.00 %	\$151.07
1867-390 - Convention Expense	\$0.00	\$1,253.28	\$1,300.00	96.41 %	\$1,597.50
Total Other Expenses	\$1,286.31	\$24,451.36	\$28,550.00	85.64 %	\$27,242.81
Total Expenses	\$44,858.03	\$489,396.05	\$657,457.00	74.44 %	\$508,188.92
Net Total	(\$12,333.71)	(\$13,301.35)	(\$82,390.00)	0.00 %	(\$48,088.76)
Transfers					
9903-001 - Trsf. Endowment	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$19,116.00	0.00 %	\$0.00
9903-002 - Trsf. End. Outreach	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$12,744.00	0.00 %	\$0.00
9903-004 - Transfer from Nielsen	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$15,791.00	0.00 %	\$0.00
9903-006 - Trsf. Christmas	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$6,372.00	0.00 %	\$0.00
9903-009 - Trsrfr from Unrestrict	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$28,500.00	0.00 %	\$0.00
Total Transfers	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$82,523.00	0.00 %	\$0.00
Net Operating Total	(\$12,333.71)	(\$13,301.35)	\$133.00	0.00 %	(\$48,088.76)

Tom Warren..... Rector
 Greg Smith.....Assisting Clergy
 Sam Holt..... Organist/Choirmaster
 Jess Edards.....Senior Warden
 Jim Purnell.....Junior Warden
 Corey FaderTreasurer
 Andrew Duppstadt.....Clerk of the Vestry
 Lori Kelly.....Parish Administrator
 Sherry Tanner.....Communications Director
 Jim Godfrey.....Mary's Kitchen Director
 Jo Parrott.....Altar Guild Chair

Parish Vestry

2024

Rob Bizzell
 Jess Edwards
 Jo Parrott
 Ginny Wade

2025

Andrew Duppstadt
 Bonnie Holton
 Anne Lindley
 Jim Purnell

2026

Richard Crumbacker
 Corey Fader
 Randy Spaugh
 Kay Turner

ST. MARY'S CHURCH

All are welcome!

SUNDAY

Nurseries Open 10am-12:00pm

8:00 am - The Holy Eucharist: Rite 1 (Chapel)

9:00 am - Parish Breakfast

9:30 am - Christian Formation for All Ages

10:30 am - The Holy Eucharist: Rite 2 (Large Sanctuary)

This liturgy is livestreamed to our YouTube Channel.

TUESDAY & THURSDAY

8:30 am - Morning Prayer (Chapel)

WEDNESDAY

7:00 am - Men's Bible & Prayer Breakfast (Moseley Hall)

6:00 pm - Wednesday Parish Supper and Program

Visit www.stmaryskinston.com to learn more about many other community ministry offerings for all ages.

www.stmaryskinston.com

www.youtube.com/stmaryskinston

www.facebook.com/stmaryskinston

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