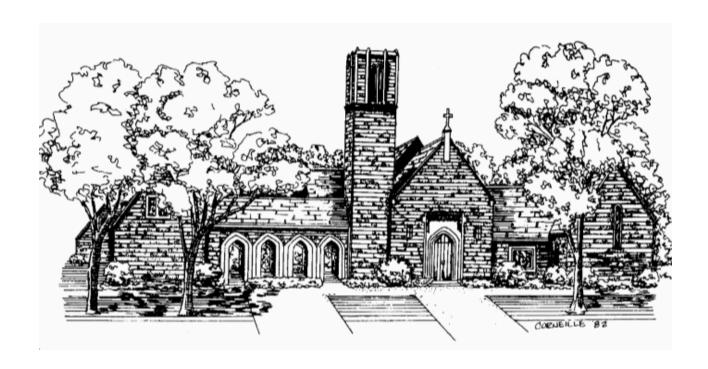


St. Mary's Episcopal Church

800 Rountree Street Kinston, North Carolina 28501



The Annual Report of St. Mary's Episcopal Church December 7, 2025

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-<u>bearer</u>")

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 2025. 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

Looking back over 2025, I am grateful to God for ALL of the goodness that we can perceive happening in and from this parish family! Our commitment to proclaiming the Good News of Jesus in word and sacrament, as well as through how we seek to continually learn and grow in our faith, and live our lives in JOYful service, remains our foundation and it is from that solid ground that we continue to discern and follow God's call to us.

The insights from the various commissions and committees that are included in this report are remarkable and reflect a community that is alive with purpose! While I certainly don't wish to be redundant, there are a few things that I feel I should highlight up front:

- Our RISE with JOY capital campaign projects continued to unfold in remarkably wonderful ways this year. 2025 began with a deep sense of gratitude for all we accomplished the previous year, especially the completion of the Capital Campaign's indoor accessibility projects. This work immediately made a meaningful difference in how members and visitors experience our campus. The installation of a new fire alarm and door security system continued this important focus on safety and hospitality. These improvements are not merely practical; they reflect our belief that every person who enters our spaces should be welcomed with dignity and care.
- Most of the year saw construction on the Parish Commons (formerly called the West Lawn), culminating in the opening of the new Playground to the community at the Block Party. I can't adequately express how wonderful it is to see children from the church, the Nursery School, and the neighborhood all enjoying this natural playspace! Elements will continue to be added, including landscaping and details that will further assist Biblical teaching through play. It will only get better!
- Coming next in 2026 to wrap up our first set of RISE with JOY capital campaign projects is the new Rountree Street parking lot and alley that will connect Rountree Street to the existing alley.
- We experienced a major transition at Mary's Kitchen when Jim Godfrey retired as the Executive Director after 7 years. The Kitchen's Board of Directors, the Vestry of the Church, and the Lenoir County Commissioners recognized Jim's service with resolutions that sought to capture his monumental impact on the ministry and broader community. Unfortunately, Jim's health declined quickly and we mourn his death this month. Jim's legacy of faithful service is one that we celebrate and we hold his family in our prayers. Mary's Kitchen has been blessed to continue to have strong leadership as Richard Crumbacker transitioned from a role as Cook to become the next Executive Director. May God bless Mary's Kitchen in this new season of ministry under Richard's guidance!
- Another highlight of the year was the 50th anniversary of St. Mary's Nursery School.
 Madison Mills continues to do a remarkable job as Director of the school. Past
 Directors, teachers, students, and families gathered on May 18 to remember the
 legacy of SMNS founder Mary Jane Bright and celebrate the ways that children have

continued to be nurtured in the Christian faith through the ministries that continue at this special place.

- "Compassionate Care" continues to be a point of emphasis for ministries at St. Mary's in these times. A special "Sanctuary Course" on mental health was featured on Wednesday nights in the spring. Also, a new Al-Anon mutual support group for people whose lives have been affected by someone else's drinking has started on Tuesday evenings at 5:30pm and just recently a new "closed" AA meeting for Women has begun on Tuesday evenings at 7:30pm. Our Sunday evening (8pm) "open" AA meeting continues.
- This year, the very difficult decision was made to not continue hosting a Cookie Walk after Laury Sargeant's "retirement" from leading the ministry. We offer thanksgiving for all of the wonderful ways that God worked blessings through these 14 years of events through funds raised that went towards education ministries locally and abroad in the Dominican Republic, through building community for the countless visitors that participated in the Cookie Walks from all over, and through the JOY of serving with one another in cooking, decorating, and hosting. Thank you, Laury, for lovingly and carefully coordinating these events over the years, and for all who helped make these events the successes that they were. Plans are being made to host a new outreach fundraising event in 2026.
- Bishop Skirving announced his retirement and I had the privilege of serving as a Co-Chair for the Bishop Search Committee throughout much of 2025. Last month, delegates from all of our congregations in the diocese gathered for the diocesan convention and elected the Rev. Sarah Fisher from Marietta, GA to serve as the 9th Bishop of the Diocese of East Carolina. 2026 will see Bishop Skirving's retirement and Bishop-elect Fisher's consecration on May 23 at the Riverfront Convention Center in New Bern. May God bless our ministries in sharing the Gospel together during her episcopacy.

Finally, I am excited to share that St. Mary's will participate in RenewalWorks in 2026 for the first time since 2014. More details will be shared soon, but this will be an opportunity for each individual to reflect on their spiritual life and share their experiences through a Spiritual Life Inventory in January. Next, a small group of leaders in the church selected by the vestry will meet to review the survey results, learn about some insights from other churches who have engaged in RenewalWorks, and make recommendations to the vestry about our shared life of faith. I look forward to this program very much as we seek to do all we can to build spiritual vitality in our community and equip you - the saints - for ministry in 2026.

Yours in Christ Jesus,

1om +

Tom Warren, Rector

REPORT OF THE SENIOR WARDEN

As I look back over this year, I remember we began the year with a newly completed renovation of our building, with markedly increased accessibility for everyone, beautiful new restrooms and lovely, bright passageways. And now, with the 2nd phase complete, we have a wonderful new playground and learning center for all God's children (all ages). We are deeply grateful for all the hard work of the Capital Campaign Committee and the Long-range Planning Committee who have worked so diligently for many years to bring this dream to fruition. And they are still hard at work on the planning and preparation for the new parking lot on Rountree Street which, with God's help, will be completed in 2026.

I began my year as Sr. Warden by attending a Warden's Conference led by Canon Stephanie Allen. She asked all of us what we liked best about our church. It was really hard for me to decide on one thing, there are so many wonderful things happening at St. Mary's. I am truly thankful for the many opportunities we have at St. Mary's to deepen our relationship with God. In addition to our Sunday morning Christian Formation hour, and Wednesday night programming, we have weekday Morning Prayer, EfM (Education for Ministry-lay ministry, not ordained), the Journey in Faith classes, Altar Guild, choir, acolytes, readers, ECW, EYC, Men's Prayer breakfast and Bible Study, Mary's Kitchen, the Prayer shawl ministry, and a myriad of others ways to give back some of what God has given us. Over the summer we hosted a wildly wonderful joint Bible School with First Presbyterian, Westminster United Methodist and Queen Street United Methodist. Our Wednesday evening programs this year included The Sanctuary Course, an 8-week series designed to engage us in conversations about mental health and how we can support those with challenges; viewing and discussing The Chosen series; and intergenerational activities with games and hymn sings.

I give thanks to God for all who have given of their time and talent to plan and support these ministries: teachers, group leaders, singers, ringers, readers, volunteers at Mary's Kitchen, planners, cooks, servers at the altar, and the little church mice who see to all the little details that we don't see but make all the difference.

As we look forward to 2026, I pray that we each hear God's call to serve and grow in our love of God and God's Kingdom.

Faithfully submitted, Bonnie Holton, Senior Warden

REPORT OF THE JUNIOR WARDEN

The past year has seen substantial progress and rewards. We have successfully completed several projects, while also navigating a few setbacks that are being addressed. Although these setbacks were relatively minor, they required significant time and effort. As they were primarily electrical in nature, a solution is currently being developed. I would rather emphasize the positive outcomes. The activation of the fire alarms and keypad entrances is a

significant milestone, greatly enhancing the safety and security of the church. The long-standing issue of poor drainage in the garden has been resolved, thanks to the efforts of Harry Wooten, Ron Taylor, the City of Kinston, and me. Although we have not yet experienced heavy rainfall, we are confident that the drainage system will function more effectively. The completion of the new playground is a major accomplishment, having recently passed inspection and been approved for use by the state. It is gratifying to see the playground being used by children and families in the community. As Junior Warden, I have had the privilege of playing a key role in this year's achievements, and I am comforted by the knowledge that my decisions and actions will have a lasting impact on the church.

Blessings, Richard Crumbacker, Junior Warden

REPORT OF THE TREASURER & FINANCE COMMISSION

Year to Date Financial Statements are included for your reference. (See pages 17-19)

The 2025 budget was \$668,974, of which \$469,771 comes from Current Year Pledges and \$55,000 from Non-Pledged Regular Giving. As we review the Year to Date (YTD) Revenue and Expense Report for the 10 months ending October 31, 2025, we see that we are behind in our Current Year Pledge and Non-Pledged Giving. Whereas we should be around 83% of our annual budget, we have only received 77% and 67% respectively. This is not an uncommon trend for revenue to lag in the Fall of the year, but I want to make you aware of the need for end of year pledge fulfillment. We are faithful that as in years past, all the needs of the church will be met.

There is also a significant portion of our budget that is comprised of End of Year Transfers from our Endowment and Investment Accounts. This year \$87,802 has been transferred to cover various Outreach programs, Special Music and Choral Scholars, and the general budget shortfall.

We are mightily blessed to have had these endowments left to us over the years from a few cherished members who thought kindly of St Mary's. Please consider making St Mary's part of your long term financial planning.

The Vestry has been good stewards of the budget in that as of October 31, 2025 we were only at 72% (\$482,466) of our annual expense budget (\$668,974). We made room in the budget to hire an Assistant Rector in 2025 and that position remains unfilled, however this line item will remain in the 2026 budget in anticipation of finding the right candidate.

We have also continued the discipline started in 2024 of setting aside funds to address the long term maintenance of the original 1959 Church property. With the goal of repairing/replacing major items like our roof and windows in the future, we have currently

set aside \$40,000 and intend to continue adding to these funds, preferably at a more aggressive pace.

As we begin drafting the budget for next year, please remember to turn in your pledge cards so we can have an accurate number for the budgeting process. The past few years have seen a decrease in the total amount pledged and we are prayerful that we will see that trend reverse.

If you have any further questions about the finances of the Church, please feel free to reach out to me in person or by phone (252) 521-9219 or email (jess@kinstonrealtygroup.com).

Thank you for trusting me to serve as the Treasurer for St Mary's Church.

Respectfully submitted, Jess Edwards, Treasurer Rob Bizzell, Commission Chair

REPORT OF THE LONG RANGE PLANNING COMMITTEE

This year the Long-Range Planning Committee has focused on the Church property goal.

After a very successful Capital Campaign, construction began last year on the accessibility plan for inside the church. That phase of the Church property goal is now complete, and we are all enjoying the easy access, new bathrooms and enhanced storage spaces the renovation provides. As promised, the renovations blend seamlessly with the existing structure so that it looks as if it is all original. Thanks go to Skip Greene and all his subcontractors for the very successful fulfillment of a vision.

The new children's play space is also nearing completion. It is heartwarming to see our children enjoying a play space designed to maximize fun while promoting creativity and imagination.

This durable and beautiful play area will serve our most precious congregants for many generations to come. Thanks go to all who made this a reality. While some of the heavy lifting was done by contractors, much of the work on this beautiful space was done by the faithful volunteers who gave tirelessly of their time and talent.

We still have much important work to do and ask for your prayers as we continue to address our goals and strategies. The Vestry will continue to refine our outdoor construction plans as we receive the remaining capital pledges over the next 3 years.

Respectfully submitted, Steve Mazingo, Long Range Planning Committee Chair

REPORT OF THE WORSHIP COMMISSION

It has truly been an honor and blessing to work with the parishioners and Vestry as we come together to worship at St. Mary's. We give thanks for the faithful and dedicated labors of our Eucharistic Ministers, Lectors, Altar Guild, Acolytes, Musicians, Choir, Hand Bell players, Ushers, Greeters, Wedding Directors, and Technology Ministers. They all serve with great dedication and care in creating and supporting our worship liturgies on Sunday and other special occasions, as well as 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, and we have increased the members that participate in these areas of worship. Planning sessions for upcoming worship events were also held throughout the year as needed. Sam Holt has done amazing work with the choir and has recruited more parishioners to join. Our youth continue to enhance our worship opportunities and serve with energy and dedication as Ushers, Musicians, Acolytes, and even as Eucharistic Minister and Preacher. We are grateful for their gifts that enhance our worship offerings.

Noteworthy worship offerings of our year of 2025 include the following:

We have worshiped together at vibrant and joy-filled 8am and 10:30am Sunday morning services, Tuesday and Thursday Morning Prayer, Wednesday morning Men's Bible Study, occasional mid-week Eucharists, Compline, 2nd Sunday monthly Choral Evensong led by our choir and occasionally Schola Cantorum, the Blessing of the Animals, a "Midsummer Hymn Sing," Stations of the Cross, Easter Vigil and Easter Day celebrations, blessing of homes in Epiphany, Bishop Skirving's visit with confirmations and a baptism on May 18th, 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 in Snow Hill, and in the life-giving open air of our Outdoor Chapel on the Parish Commons. We shared the blessings of life in Christ at heartfelt baptisms, weddings, funerals, graduation celebrations, Consecration Sunday services.

Our two seven-branch candelabras have been refurbished and are finally back in their homes in the sanctuary! We are especially thankful to Sandra Warren and St. Barnabas Episcopal Church for the long time loan of their candelabras during the refurbishing process.

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 are thankful for our moments together in worship, labor, and community.

Respectfully submitted, Kay Turner, Commission Chair

REPORT OF THE MINISTER OF MUSIC

Music ministry at St. Mary's has continued to grow and to expand during 2025 and will continue to grow as more people get involved in the various programs the ministry has to offer.

The choir is the backbone of the music ministry at St. Mary's. When all members are present, we have twenty-three choristers. These dedicated people meet each Wednesday to prepare music for Sunday services. Tasked with leading the congregation in a robust singing of the service music and hymns, they also prepare anthems appropriate to the season of the church year. In addition, the choir is committed to singing choral Evensong on the second Sunday of each month, September through June with the exception of December and January.

The St. Mary's handbell choir consists of nine people who practice in the sanctuary each Wednesday evening from 5pm to 6pm. Our goal is to play for the prelude to worship six times during the church year. St. Mary's is fortunate to possess a three-octave set of White Chapel handbells manufactured in England. In addition we also have a three-octave set of choir chimes which are especially helpful in teaching young children how to ring handbells.

In the fall of 2024, John Santoianni from Duke University was contracted to conduct a comprehensive survey of our 1967 Austin Organ to assess needs of the instrument. As a result of the findings in the report, I have contacted four reputable builders for estimates for repairing and upgrading the Austin organ so that it will continue to serve the congregation. Greenleaf Organ Company, Colby Organ Company as well as Austin Organ Company have visited St. Mary's to assess needs and to make recommendations. I have also spoken in length with Mike Foley from the Foley-Baker company about needed improvements to the organ. I have shared the organ survey with all companies so they have the same information. I will submit all proposals to the vestry in January.

In September I met with a group of people to discuss the possibility of organizing a concert series as another form of outreach for the community. There was a unanimous decision to begin the process of raising money to hire the Ciompi String Quartet from Duke University to present a concert on March 22, 2026. Hopefully this concert will be the beginning of a four-concert season continuing in the fall of 2026.

The Boar's Head Festival requires a lot of preparation time for choir rehearsals. Tori Hazelgrove, Heather Minz, Bonnie Holton, and I are in the process of preparing choir folders with new and more legible copies of music and clear directions to better facilitate rehearsals for a successful performance. Their help, insight, and recommendations are invaluable and greatly appreciated.

Finally, I want to acknowledge each member of the chancel and handbell choirs for their dedication, support, and commitment to our focus as leaders in worship. Also I want to thank Bonnie Holton for the many hours she has spent helping me plan and organize music

for the church year. I'm so grateful for her and all the many people at St. Mary's who work tirelessly to make our music special!

Respectfully submitted, Sam Holt, Minister of Music

REPORT OF THE CHRISTIAN FORMATION COMMISSION FOR ADULTS

Adult forum this program year has been especially good. On Wednesday nights at 6pm, we met for dinner. At 6:30pm, we met to look at the material for the evening, recently centered on THE CHOSEN. This followed with a great deal of conversation. Fr. Tom Warren was the leader and was a great leader. The Family Hymn sing took three of the evenings. Attendance was beyond expectation. Questions and conversation landed in the top notch category. This was a real learning experience.

On Sunday morning, we gathered for breakfast at 9am with time for the program at 9:30am. We dealt with the Psalms and then the Song of Songs. This gave time to look at a book we seldom give our attention. We then spent some time looking at the Season of Advent and its meaning for us. The book GOD IS IN THE MANGER by Dietrich Bonhoeffer was given to those who desired to read it.

Respectfully submitted, Randy Spaugh, Commission Chair

REPORT OF THE CHRISTIAN FORMATION COMMISSION FOR CHILDREN & YOUTH

The Christian Formation ministries for children and youth at St. Mary's had a wonderful year in 2025! Our parish continues to be blessed with young people who bring enthusiasm and curiosity to their life of faith, along with dedicated adults who find that ministry with children, youth, and families is a way of living out their own baptismal vows. Throughout the year, our programs encouraged learning, worship, service, fellowship, and leadership development across all age groups.

In February, our Youth Journey in Faith course began to engage in an intensive program of formation about the Episcopal Church and Anglican tradition. Some of the participants simply wanted to learn more while others were preparing for the rite of Confirmation. Of the 20 people who were confirmed or received into the Episcopal Church on May 18, eight of them were youth and two more young people chose to publicly reaffirm their faith that day. Also during the winter and spring, the Youth Sanctuary Series was offered on Wednesdays, focusing on faith and mental health and providing important spaces for spiritual growth and pastoral conversation. At the same time, our elementary-aged children

embarked on a months-long exploration of the Sacraments. Sunday morning programs for all ages continued to follow lectionary-based curricula.

As the program year continued, improvements were also made to the Senior Faith Academy room, transforming the former Choir Room into a warm and functional space for older elementary children. Volunteers painted, furnished, and decorated the room, including the installation of a donated television. This refreshed space quickly became a welcoming home for faith formation and community-building.

Youth ministry also flourished in areas of fellowship and leadership. EYC Coffee Times remained a popular gathering point for informal conversation and connection. The Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper again brought the parish together in joyful fellowship, led by youth and a committed team of adults. The evening raised several hundred dollars for youth ministries and offered fun for all, especially an epic pancake flipping relay race for the ages! During Holy Week, many of our youth served in a variety of ways, and a particular highlight was Jayden Wright's sermon on Tuesday in Holy Week, which proclaimed the Gospel and was gratefully received by all in attendance.

Preparation for summer ministries was steady throughout the spring. St. Mary's hosted "Road Trip VBS" in partnership with Westminster UMC, First Presbyterian Church, and Queen Street UMC for over 40 children, with 30 volunteers! Planning meetings, curriculum preparation, and leadership coordination helped build a strong foundation for a successful week of cross-congregational ministry. At the same time, registration opened for the Glory Ridge mission trip, scheduled for July 27–August 1. Twelve youth and eight adults went on the trip where construction projects were accomplished, the group learned about the biblical theme of "apocalypse" (which literally means "revelation"), wonderful meals were shared, and much fun was had "Making Work Worship!" Fundraising efforts, including the Chili Cook-Off, helped support the mission.

Graduate Sunday on June 8 recognized and celebrated accomplishments of young adults across high school, college, and graduate programs. We honored their achievements and prayed for their continued growth and success. Our ongoing partnership with St. Mary's Nursery School remained an important ministry throughout 2025 as well, highlighted by Christmas and Easter goodie bags for staff, a Teacher Appreciation Luncheon, and a joyous celebration of the school's 50th anniversary! Madison Mills continues to do a wonderful job as Director of the school.

Christian Formation resumed in September for the fall program year with renewed energy. Wednesday evening programs for Junior and Senior Faith Academy continued under the faithful leadership of Mara Moye and Audra Haddad, who prepared creative and engaging lesson plans. The EYC welcomed a growing number of adult leaders and Sunday morning youth discussions regularly included youth-led reflections on the Scriptures of the day. Musical life also deepened through new Music Jam Sessions (open to the whole church and

hosted by the youth), organized every other Thursday by Tyler Nute. These evenings offer a joyful blend of music-making and fellowship.

St. Mary's youth remained active in diocesan and regional events as well, including New Beginnings, Happening, and Fall Conference at Trinity Center. Youth also enjoyed a trip to Durham for the Reality Ministries Talent Show, serving at services at St. Barnabas in Snow Hill, and serving at Mary's Kitchen. Jayden Wright and Jude Warren hold positions in the East Carolina Youth Council, participated in the Province IV Youth Event, attended the SUMMA Theological Debate Camp at Sewanee, and represented St. Mary's as Youth Delegates to Diocesan Convention.

Throughout 2025, our formation ministries were strengthened by the commitment of many adult staff and volunteers who served in the Cradle, Junior Faith Academy, Senior Faith Academy, and EYC. Their dedication made possible another year of meaningful spiritual growth for our young people. We are deeply grateful for their leadership and the joy they bring to this work.

- Childcare Staff: Tanya Johnson, Krystal Johnson, Stephanie Kollock, Amanda Shirley, Samantha Thornton, Lauren Burckett, and Valentina Bassett
- Junior Faith Academy Younger Elementary Kids: Dacie Edwards, Audra Haddad, Marissa Howard, Vicki Kennedy, Amanda Shirley, Margaret Spaugh, Sherry Tanner, Bethany McKissick, Mara Moye, Hannah Kennedy
- Senior Faith Academy Older Elementary Kids: Megan Fader, Audra Haddad, Vicki Kennedy, Mara Moye, Sherry Tanner, Hannah Kennedy
- EYC Middle & High School Youth: Corey Fader, Jessica Shimer, Ginny Wade, Tyndall Davis, Sherry Tanner, Todd Tanner, Dacie Edwards, Barbara Crumbacker, Tyler Nute, Andrew Duppstadt

With gratitude for all who contribute to the faith formation of our children and youth, we give thanks for a rich and fruitful year, and we look forward with hope to all that God will continue to do among the young people of St. Mary's.

Respectfully submitted, Fr. Tom Warren

REPORT OF THE OUTREACH COMMISSION

St. Mary's Episcopal Church continues to build relationships in Kinston and beyond, provide services and resources, and address needs we see with gusto. Our membership is involved and passionate about serving. I am grateful to witness the outreach of combined efforts within our church community.

Northwest Elementary School continues to be our Hand in Hand partner. Laury Sargeant heads up the breakfast for teachers and staff each year and organizes school supply donation

collection and delivery. She also purchases snacks to stock the supply closet there for students in need. Becky Darst communicates with the Northwest teachers and organizes volunteers to read with students.

The Block Party was a huge success this year! There were many long time attendees as well as quite a few new faces. Holly Warren heads this up and does a fantastic job.

Mary's Kitchen volunteers served many meals this past year. Food drives were held and our annual Bingo event was a fun-filled evening of fundraising. Richard Crumbaker provides strong leadership at Mary's Kitchen as our numbers increase.

The Red Cross continues to hold blood drives at St. Mary's. Thank you to all who participate in this life-saving effort.

The Ironclad Half Marathon was held again this year. Our church serves as an aid station on the course.

Becky Darst continues to head the Foster Children's Christmas gift collection. Much love and joy is put into this ministry.

The Boar's Head and Yule Log Festival was held in January. People came from across the state to see one of the shows or attend the banquet. Many hands volunteer for an extended period to make sure everything is perfect. Christ's presence is keenly felt at this event.

Meals were served for worksite volunteers and parishioners gave their time at two Kinston Habitat for Humanity build sites. Additional work dates will be posted in 2026.

Each year during our Lenten programming, a donation basket is available for outreach donations. This year our donations were sent to Madison County, NC, to help with post-Hurricane Helene relief efforts.

Respectfully submitted, Sarah Warner, Commission Chair

REPORT OF THE PASTORAL CARE COMMISSION

Pastoral Care at St. Mary's is a compassionate and intentional ministry aimed at leading God's people into a deeper relationship with God and with one another. It calls us to practice spiritual and emotional support to individuals and communities. This ministry is relational and empathetic. It is delivered through presence, listening, counseling, prayer, and assistance. It fosters healing, resilience, and a deeper connection with God.

Love and humility embody pastoral care. It touches many, if not all, parishioners whether they are recipients or compassionate care givers. This commission is surrounded in love, empathy, and quietude.

Through pastoral care Jesus teaches us to:

- Love one another
- Be devoted to one another in brotherly love
- Honor one another above yourself
- Serve one another with love
- Be humble toward one another
- Regard others as more important than yourself

Each Christmas and Easter at St. Mary's, the sanctuary is decorated with Poinsettias and Easter lilies. Following the last holiday service these beautiful flowers are lovingly distributed to those on the pastoral care list and cherished members as part of the loyal work of our altar guild. When possible, altar flowers are also distributed in a similar manner throughout the year.

The Baptismal Ministry continues to offer love and support to the families of children and adults who are anticipating a baptism. Gifts of handmade dolls and personalized baptismal towels are given to newly-baptized children. Immediately following each ceremony, a reception is held to introduce and welcome the newly baptized into our church family and the life of Christ.

Cherished member lunches are held the first Thursday of the month October through April. A team of cooks and supporters prepare a warm meal that welcomes our senior parishioners and their friends to break bread together. These meals are a heart-warming time for food and fellowship.

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, baby blankets, and other beautiful items that remind the recipients of the prayers of support and of God's ever presence.

The Lay Eucharistic Visitor Ministry is vital to those wishing to receive the sacraments but are unable to come to church. Lay Eucharistic Visitors provide communion to homebound or hospitalized members. Father Tom is glad to offer training to all confirmed members who are interested in learning more about this important, compassionate ministry.

The "Cards, Casserole, and Caring" ministry supports families in need due to surgery, illness, and the birth or loss of a loved one. This ministry reminds those in need that they are remembered and loved by their parish family. Cards are free and available in a box outside of the vestry room. Monthly sign-ups allow you to be involved in spreading this love.

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

Respectfully submitted, Anne Lindley, Commission Chair

REPORT OF THE FELLOWSHIP COMMISSION

We had a wonderful year of fellowship at St. Mary's! 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. Our annual Night at the Ballpark was another joyful time cheering on the Bird Dawgs and even featured St. Mary's members participating in on-the-field fun! We have also been blessed to have many baptisms and celebrations of baptisms with receptions 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, Harry Wooten, Commission Chair

REPORT OF THE PERSONNEL COMMISSION

This year, we continue to be exceedingly blessed by the support of our full and part-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. Earlier this year, Lori requested to reduce her workdays to four days per week, which the Personnel Committee and the Vestry approved. New to our staff is Lisa Maxwell, who faithfully and efficiently covers the office on Fridays. Our Communications Director, Sherry Tanner, has kept all members updated with weekly emails, beautiful monthly Bell Ringer editions, our Sunday bulletins, livestream announcement slides, and countless other projects. Our Custodian, Ronnie Taylor, with the help of Nita Rouse, continues to help keep our building clean and in good shape.

Our late Jim Godfrey, who served as the Executive Director at Mary's Kitchen beginning in August of 2017, retired in February and was laid to rest in St. Francis' Garden yesterday following a season of declining health. His faithful service in this world will be truly missed. We are very blessed to have Richard Crumbacker now serving as the Executive Director. Richard is working very hard to continue the good work Jim did with fundraising, organizing donations of food and supplies, and recruitment of volunteers to serve at the kitchen every day of the week. Our Minister of Music, Sam Holt, continues to bring joy and inspiration to our worship through music. We are looking forward to the new concert series we are developing for 2026 initiated by Sam.

Our Childcare Staff, Tanya Edwards, lead teacher, Kyrstal Johnson, Samantha Thornton, Stephanie Kollock, and Amanda May, work together to provide quality care and assist our teachers with our Christian formation program for our children.

I can't close this report without mentioning how blessed we are, first of all, to have Fr. Tom as our pastor and spiritual leader, but also to have so many individuals who have stepped up to assist with youth, pastoral care, and other areas while we do not have an assistant for Fr. Tom. 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

Lenten Soup and Sandwich Suppers - March-April, 2025

ECW Movie Night - Hidden Figures - August, 2025

Annual Bulb Sale led by Juliet Barrus - September, 2025

Mary's Kitchen Service Day - October 4, 2025

Christmas Ornament Shell Activity - November 30, 2025

Annual Business Meeting with Elections coming January, 2026

It has been a tradition for ECW to share at least half of its funds to support outreach inside and outside the church. We will distribute outreach funds in January, 2026. This has been a fun year of learning and serving in fellowship with each other. Thanks be to God for making all this possible. Thank you to every woman of St. Mary's for your leadership, support, and participation.

Respectfully submitted, Audra Haddad Date: 12/04/2025 Time: 8:56:14 AM

*St. Mary's Episcopal Church YTD Vestry Rev-Exp Detail January to October 2025 Note: The Report Option to include Open Transactions is selected.

Page: 1

	15				
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	\$2,807.00	\$37,295.04	\$55,000.00	67.81 %	\$45,329.78
1751-000 - Plate Offerings	\$217.60	\$4,592.77	\$5,000.00	91.86 %	\$3,210.10
Total Non-Pledge Donations	\$3,024.60	\$41,887.81	\$60,000.00	69.81 %	\$48,539.88
Pledge Payments					
1752-00A - Previous Year Pledge	\$0.00	\$7,765.00	\$0.00	0.00 %	\$4,300.00
1752-00B - Current Year Pledge	\$20,773.00	\$363,031.23	\$469,771.00	77.28 %	\$388,627.11
Total Pledge Payments	\$20,773.00	\$370,796.23	\$469,771.00	78.93 %	\$392,927.11
Miscellaneous Income					
1756-01A - Day School Rent	\$1,395.00	\$8,354.00	\$12,200.00	68.48 %	\$10,127.00
1756-01B - Miscellaneous Income	\$313.82	\$5,599.43	\$10,000.00	55.99 %	\$13,380.13
1756-01C - Sunday Breakfast	\$130.00	\$842.63	\$1,250.00	67.41 %	\$972.66
1756-01G - Processing Fees (Onli	\$52.45	\$532.34	\$1,000.00	53.23 %	\$661.50
Total Miscellaneous Income	\$1,891.27	\$15,328.40	\$24,450.00	62.69 %	\$25,141.29
Total Revenues	\$25,688.87	\$428,012.44	\$554,221.00	77.23 %	\$466,608.28
Expenses					
Personnel					
Clergy					
Rector	CE 700 04	¢57,000,40	\$69.160.00	00.00.00	CEE 05 4 00
1867-01A - Rector's Salary	\$5,763.34	\$57,633.40		83.33 %	\$55,954.80
1867-01B - Rector's Cont. Ed 1867-01C - Rector's FICA Fund	\$0.00	\$1,800.00 \$5,652.60	\$1,800.00	100.00 %	\$1,800.00
1867-01D - Rector's Housing/Utili	\$565.26 \$433.34	\$4,333.40	\$6,783.12 \$5,200.00	83.33 % 83.33 %	\$5,652.60 \$4,333.40
1867-015 - Rector's Housing/Otili	\$193.20	\$1,369.27	\$2,000.00	68.46 %	\$0.00
1867-01G - Rector's Home Equity	\$100.00	\$1,000.00		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	\$16,217.52	\$19,570.00	82.87 %	\$15,400.10
1867-08A - Rector's Insurance	\$3,191.98	\$31,919.80	\$38,304.00	83.33 %	\$31,169.80
Total Rector	\$11,787.13	\$119,925.99	\$144,617.12	82.93 %	\$115,310.70
Assistant Rector	Ψ11,707.10	\$110,020.00	Ψ1-4-1,017.12	02.00 70	\$110,010.70
1867-02A - Curate's Salary	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$19,871.00	0.00 %	\$0.00
1867-02B - Curate's Cont. Ed	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$800.00	0.00 %	\$0.00
1867-02C - Curate's FICA	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$3,476.50	0.00 %	\$0.00
1867-02D - Curate's Housing/Utilit	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,600.00	0.00 %	\$0.00
1867-02E - Curate's Travel	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$750.00	0.00 %	\$0.00
1867-02G - Curate's Cell Phone	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$300.00	0.00 %	\$0.00
1867-02H - Curate's Home Equity	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$600.00	0.00 %	\$0.00
1867-07B - Curate's Pension	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$6,071.50	0.00 %	\$0.00
1867-08C - Curate's Insurance	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$18,702.00	0.00 %	\$0.00
Total Assistant Rector	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$53,171.00	0.00 %	\$0.00
Other Clergy Expense					
1867-01J - Supply Clergy	\$451.80	\$4,094.72	\$2,500.00	163.79 %	\$3,762.15
1867-01K - Search Expense	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,000.00	0.00 %	\$0.00
1867-01N - Sabbatical (Parish)	\$0.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	100.00 %	\$1,000.00
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	\$651.80	\$12,094.72	\$12,900.00	93.76 %	\$11,762.15
Total Clergy	\$12,438.93	\$132,020.71	\$210,688.12	62.66 %	\$127,072.85
Music Staff					
1867-03A - Choirmaster Salary	\$3,776.66	\$38,371.60	\$45,320.00	84.67 %	\$29,033.30
1867-03B - Choirmaster Cont. Ed.	\$0.00	\$700.00	\$700.00	100.00 %	\$700.00
Total Music Staff Office Staff	\$3,776.66	\$39,071.60	\$46,020.00	84.90 %	\$29,733.30
1867-04A - Parish Administrator	\$3,491.50	\$34,915.00	\$41,898.00	83.33 %	\$33,898.40

*St. Mary's Episcopal Church YTD Vestry Rev-Exp Detail January to October 2025 Note: The Report Option to include Open Transactions is selected. Date: 12/04/2025 Time: 8:56:15 AM

	95				
Accounts	MTD Actual (This Year)	YTD Actual (This Year)	Annual Budget (This Year)	% of Annual Budget Used (This Year)	YTD Actual (Last Year)
1867-04D - Administrative Assistan	\$291.66	\$2,770.77	\$3,500.00	79.16 %	\$0.00
1867-04G - Communications Direc	\$862.66	\$8,626.60	\$10,352.00	83.33 %	\$8,375.20
Total Office Staff	\$4,645.82	\$46,312.37	\$55,750.00	83.07 %	\$42,273.60
Matching FICA					
1867-06B - Choirmaster	\$288.92	\$2,935.51	\$3,527.00	83.23 %	\$2,106.32
1867-06C - Parish Admin.	\$267.10	\$2,671.00	\$3,205.00	83.34 %	\$2,593.40
1867-06D - Admin Assist	\$22.30	\$211.85	\$250.00	84.74 %	\$0.00
1867-06H - Communications Direc	\$65.98	\$659.80	\$792.00	83.31 %	\$640.60
Total Matching FICA	\$644.30	\$6,478.16	\$7,774.00	83.33 %	\$5,340.32
Total Personnel	\$21,505.71	\$223,882.84	\$320,232.12	69.91 %	\$204,420.07
Other Purposes Outside Parish					
1864-00A - Diocesan Pledge	\$4,995.33	\$49,953.30	\$59,944.00	83.33 %	\$48,283.30
1864-00B - St. Mary's Undesignat	\$845.78	\$1,345.78	\$2,000.00	67.29 %	\$2,143.08
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	\$15,898.93	0.00 %	\$0.00
1866-00F - Rest Outrch (Xmas)	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$7,949.47	0.00 %	\$0.00
1866-00G - Mary's Kitchen	\$0.00	\$7,500.00	\$10,000.00	75.00 %	\$0.00
Total Outreach	\$250.00	\$10,000.00	\$36,848.40	27.14 %	\$2,500.00
Total Other Purposes Outside Parish	\$6,091.11	\$61,299.08	\$98,792.40	62.05 %	\$52,926.38
Other Ins. Premiums/Benefits					
1867-08D - Administrator's Annuity	\$314.24	\$3,142.40	\$3,771.00	83.33 %	\$3,050.90
1867-08E - Choirmaster's Annuity	\$339.90	\$3,399.00	\$4,078.80	83.33 %	\$1,650.00
Total Other Ins. Premiums/Benefits	\$654.14	\$6,541.40	\$7,849.80	83.33 %	\$4,700.90
Office Expense					
1867-10A - Office Supplies	\$99.98	\$3,171.44	\$4,000.00	79.29 %	\$2,881.34
1867-10C - Postage	\$195.21	\$1,996.09	\$2,250.00	88.72 %	\$1,585.70
1867-10F - Service Charges	\$115.15	\$1,453.15	\$2,000.00	72.66 %	\$1,674.29
Total Office Expense	\$410.34	\$6,620.68	\$8,250.00	80.25 %	\$6,141.33
Music, Choir Supplies					
1867-18A - Music & Accompanists	\$775.00	\$7,387.41	\$10,575.00	69.86 %	\$5,000.00
1867-18B - Maintenance-Instrume	\$0.00	\$1,675.00	\$6,000.00	27.92 %	\$2,250.00
Total Music, Choir Supplies	\$775.00	\$9,062.41	\$16,575.00	54.68 %	\$7,250.00
Church Operations Utilities					
1867-09A - Electricity and Water	\$3,303.02	\$28,255.51	\$28,000.00	100.91 %	\$23,940.48
1867-09B - Natural Gas	\$64.02	\$4,914.58	\$4,500.00	109.21 %	\$2,517.20
1867-160 - Telephone & Internet	\$363.24	\$3,575.44	\$4,200.00	85.13 %	\$3,426.76
Total Utilities	\$3,730.28	\$36,745.53	\$36,700.00	100.12 %	\$29,884.44
Maint. of Property and Equip.	40,100.20	\$50 ,1 15.55	400,100.00	100.12 70	42 0,00 ii i i
Regular Maintenance					
1867-21A - Building and Grounds	\$267.10	\$35,599.99	\$50,000.00	71.20 %	\$36,107.30
1867-21B - Office Equipment Mai	\$839.81	\$8,184.98	\$10,000.00	81.85 %	\$8,071.30
1867-21C - Cleaning Supplies	\$352.21	\$3,244.28	\$2,750.00	117.97 %	\$1,899.42
1867-21H - Computer/Software u	\$248.10	\$557.99	\$2,000.00	27.90 %	\$496.84
1867-21J - Contract Maintenance	\$3,119.33	\$33,011.15	\$36,000.00	91.70 %	\$25,410.86
1867-21L - Long Term Maintenanc	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$20,000.00	0.00 %	\$20,000.00
Total Regular Maintenance	\$4,826.55	\$80,598.39	\$120,750.00	66.75 %	\$91,985.72
Total Maint, of Property and Equip.	\$4,826.55	\$80,598.39	\$120,750.00	66.75 %	\$91,985.72
Ministries		1000			30,778
1867-170 - Altar Guild	\$133.74	\$1,293.34	\$2,000.00	64.67 %	\$1,195.70
1867-30A - Christian Ed(Adults)	\$74.00	\$1,030.63	\$1,000.00	103.06 %	\$678.10
1867-30B - EYC - Jr. & Sr.	\$0.00	\$472.01	\$3,000.00	15.73 %	\$2,812.57
1867-30C - Hospitality(Recptns, etc	\$304.45	\$1,639.01	\$2,000.00	81.95 %	\$1,676.44
1867-30E - Nursery	\$1,189.00	\$11,158.17	\$12,000.00	92.98 %	\$8,895.61
1867-30F - Publications	\$0.00	\$305.00	\$375.00	81.33 %	\$305.00

Page: 2

Date: 12/04/2025 Time: 8:56:15 AM

*St. Mary's Episcopal Church YTD Vestry Rev-Exp Detail January to October 2025 Note: The Report Option to include Open Transactions is selected.

Page: 3

Accounts	MTD Actual (This Year)	YTD Actual (This Year)	Annual Budget (This Year)	% of Annual Budget Used (This Year)	YTD Actual (Last Year)
1867-30H - Grad, Baptism & Confi	\$0.00	\$688.81	\$1,200.00	57.40 %	\$565.41
1867-30L - EYC Mission Trip	\$0.00	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00	100.00 %	\$1,500.00
1867-30M - Fellowship Meals	\$2,049.19	\$3,176.64	\$3,000.00	105.89 %	\$2,773.57
1867-30N - Alpha Program	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00 %	\$1,914.69
1867-30P - Christian Ed(Children/	\$147.27	\$974.28	\$2,000.00	48.71 %	\$1,716.27
Total Ministries	\$3,897.65	\$22,237.89	\$28,075.00	79.21 %	\$24,033.36
Total Church Operations	\$12,454.48	\$139,581.81	\$185,525.00	75.24 %	\$145,903.52
Other Expenses		, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,			27 2 - 3 - 11 - 12 - 11
1867-150 - Sales Tax - State	\$345.02	\$6,398.07	\$3,000.00	213.27 %	\$2,311.10
1867-151 - Sales Tax - County	\$3.19	\$1,297.53	\$200.00	648.76 %	\$152.74
1867-190 - Audit	\$0.00	\$736.31	\$600.00	122.72 %	\$584.98
1867-240 - General Insurance	\$0.00	\$25,889.07	\$25,000.00	103.56 %	\$18,755.90
1867-310 - Miscellaneous Expens	\$25.62	\$828.67	\$1,500.00	55.24 %	\$1,243.36
1867-380 - Vestry and Parish Retre	\$0.00	\$153.30	\$150.00	102.20 %	\$150.00
1867-390 - Convention Expense	\$175.00	\$175.00	\$1,300.00	13.46 %	\$1,253.28
Total Other Expenses	\$548.83	\$35,477.95	\$31,750.00	111.74 %	\$24,451.36
Total Expenses	\$42,439.61	\$482,466.17	\$668,974.32	72.12 %	\$445,793.56
Net Total	(\$16,750.74)	(\$54,453.73)	(\$114,753.32)	0.00 %	\$20,814.72
Transfers					
9903-001 - Trsf. Endowment	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$23,848.40	0.00 %	\$0.00
9903-002 - Trsf. End. Outreach	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$15,898.93	0.00 %	\$0.00
9903-004 - Transfer from Nielsen	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$18,613.43	0.00 %	\$0.00
9903-006 - Trsf. Christmas	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$7,949.47	0.00 %	\$0.00
9903-009 - Trsfr from Unrestricte	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$9,918.00	0.00 %	\$0.00
9903-010 - Trsf Potter Fund to Or	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$6,000.00	0.00 %	\$0.00
9903-011 - Trsf Potter Fund to Musi	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$5,575.00	0.00 %	\$0.00
9903-012 - Trsf From Asst Rector	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$30,000.00	0.00 %	\$0.00
Total Transfers	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$117,803.23	0.00 %	\$0.00
Net Operating Total	(\$16,750.74)	(\$54,453.73)	\$3,049.91	0.00 %	\$20,814.72

Tom Warren Rector	
Greg SmithAssisting Clergy	
Sam Holt Minister of Music	An
Bonnie HoltonSenior Warden	
Richard CrumbackerJunior Warden	
Jess EdwardsTreasurer	
Andrew DuppstadtClerk of the Vestry	
Lori KellyParish Administrator	
Sherry TannerCommunications Director	
Lisa MaxwellAdministrative Assistant	
Richard CrumbackerMary's Kitchen Director	
Jo ParrottAltar Guild Chair	

Parish Vestry 2025 2026 Andrew Duppstadt Bonnie Holton Anne Lindley Jim Purnell Parish Vestry 2026 Richard Crumbacker Corey Fader Randy Spaugh Kay Turner

2027 Rob Bizzell Frances Herring Sarah Warner Harry Wooten

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 800 Rountree Street, Kinston, NC 28501-3655 Phone (252) 523-6146 Fax (252) 523-5134