

RISE with JOY



A campaign to lift

St. Mary's Episcopal Church

into greater community

Dear Friends,

Welcome to our RISE with JOY Campaign.

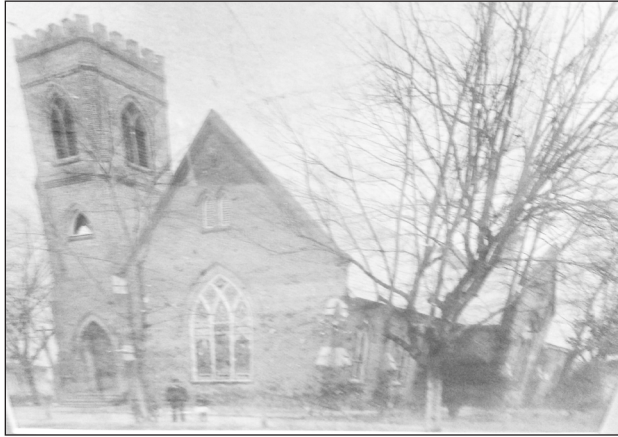
*Jesus said, "I came so that they might have life
and have it more abundantly." (John 10:10)*

Jesus brings life. Real life. Abundant life. If you're reading this booklet, then I have reason to believe that not only do you know this to be true, but you have found this truth shared with you in some way through St. Mary's Episcopal Church. Since its founding, the people of St. Mary's have understood that our very reason for being is to live so that the life that Jesus brings might be known by more and more people, in fuller and fuller ways. I've loved serving here since 2011 because of this shared understanding among our church community!

Over those years, I have observed many of the challenges that we face together in our common mission. I have also observed that we have been given wonderful opportunities to envision our long-range future, especially after purchasing the adjoining western property in 2018. I've been impressed by the attentive and steadfast work of our Vestry and Long Range Planning Committee, task groups, and other committees that addresses our challenges and offers a vision for the future.

Friends, we are now at a momentous time in St. Mary's history--we have the opportunity to RISE with JOY and take a next step into the vision that has been prayerfully and carefully discerned by our community. This vision seeks to draw all people in to receive Jesus' life-giving words, sacraments, and community, and to remove obstacles along the way. As you read and discern the vision laid out in this booklet, I hope that you will share in the same sense of calling that so many have come to hold, and join in making it a reality!

Yours in Christ Jesus,
Tom+



“ From the rich history of St. Mary’s, we have inherited an enhanced spirit of Gratitude. Gratitude to the past for striving toward the vision of those who saw our future; gratitude to the present for realizing that new vision is within our grasp; gratitude to the future for challenging us to reach for tomorrow. ”

Sarah Weeks

For 192 years, the congregations of St. Mary’s have risen to a host of challenges...rebuilding the original downtown church building when it was destroyed by fire, constructing a new church here on Rountree Street, founding a vibrant nursery school, establishing our city’s soup kitchen and shepherding it through decades of a growing ministry, offering a jubilant annual Boar’s Head and Yule Log Festival that welcomes and inspires visitors from near and far. These are just a few of many, many examples. Now, you’re invited to join a capital campaign and RISE to a new level of serving Jesus, Others, and Yourself.





You're invited to help St. Mary's **REACH** others by reaching into your resources and abilities. Going beyond annual stewardship, your capital campaign gift will deepen the imprint of St. Mary's ministry. It will improve our facilities so we can better communicate the gospel and live in love within our neighborhood and community. All giving strengthens our faith and allows us to meet Christ through serving others.

As Christ's followers, we are called to **INCLUDE** every person in our church life, to "love our neighbors as ourselves." Scripture shows how Jesus especially embraced those whom others excluded: people with disabilities and children. Your capital campaign gift will fund two major projects. One gives greater accessibility to worship and fellowship for those with mobility impairments. The second project provides a relocated and re-designed Outdoor Learning and Play Center for children, a space that will become the hub of The Parish Commons, an outdoor environment for rest, recreation, and building relationships with our neighbors and our God.



At the heart of St. Mary's mission is the desire to **SERVE**—to respond with generosity and compassion to the aged, children, and those in crisis. We are also called to serve as stewards of God's creation. Through our new Outdoor Learning and Play Center, we will foster a love of God's natural worlds as we strengthen bodies and inspire imaginative play.

Like the early apostles, we seek to **EXPAND** our church's embrace and impact to an ever-widening community—as the Book of Common Prayer says, to “bring those who do not know You to the knowledge and love of You, for the honor of Your name.” Establishing a new pathway within our church building and broadening the use of our outdoor space will allow us to widen St. Mary's community. And, as Jesus teaches, we will expand our own spiritual JOY by reaching, including, and serving others.

“At my father’s funeral, some of his closest friends left after the service. They couldn’t go to the reception in Moseley Hall because they used a wheelchair or walker. It was one of the saddest parts of that day.”
Pam Mazingo

“It sometimes frustrates me. I can go around on the outside sidewalk, but that’s not always easy.”
-Betty DeVeau

Priority One:

Creating a level pathway between the sanctuary and the Moseley Hall corridor to improve accessibility for those with mobility limitations.

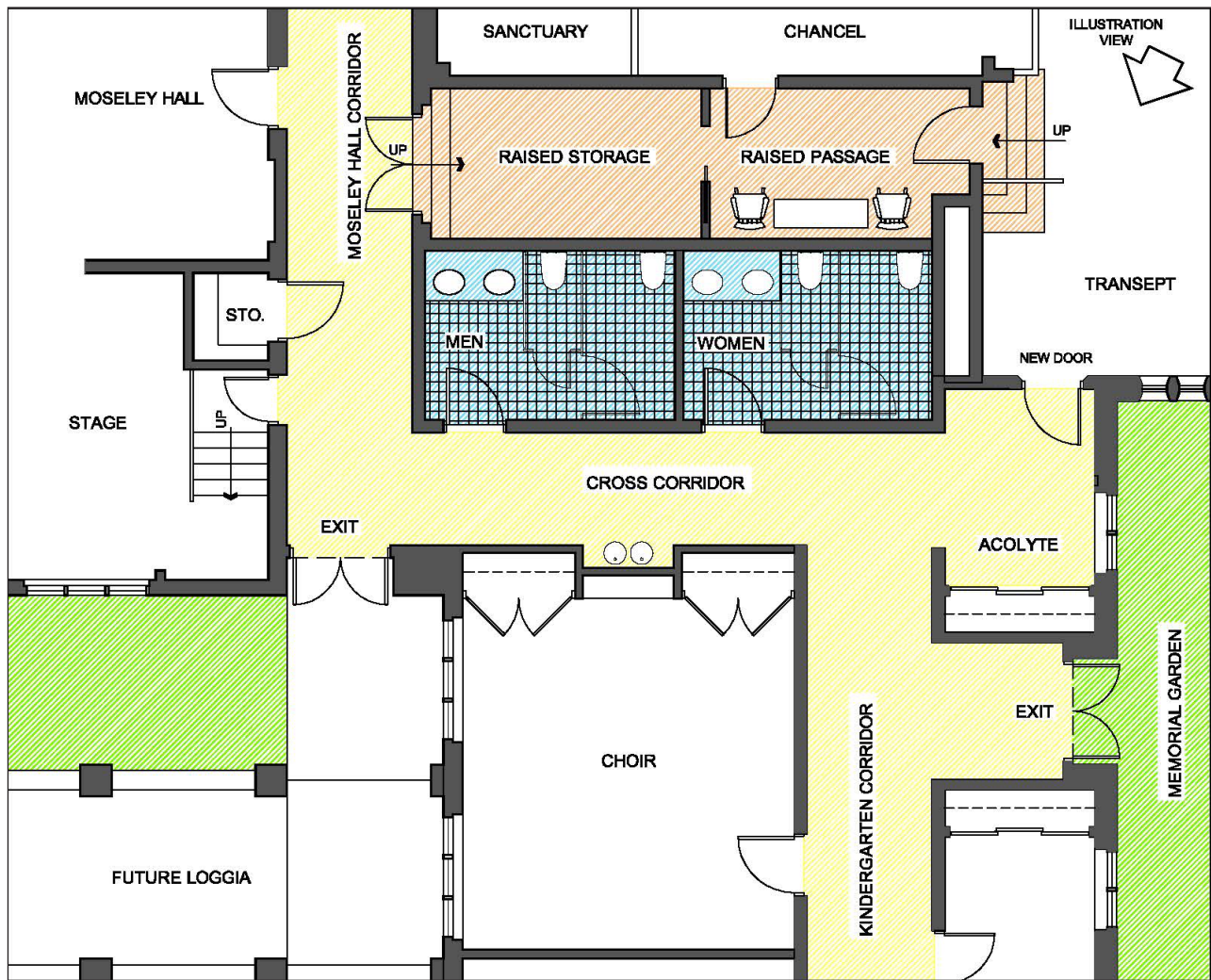
Christ calls us to welcome every individual, especially those with physical disabilities. In Chapter 5 of Luke’s gospel, it’s so important for a paralyzed man to be near Jesus that his friends lower him through the roof of the building where Jesus is teaching, and Jesus welcomes him.

Our church, like many built in the 1940s and 50s, is not user-friendly for those with mobility issues. The raised altar area extends into the hallways around the chancel, so that to move from the sanctuary back to Moseley Hall, or to the nursery or office wings, requires navigating several small stairways. Additionally, the church wasn’t constructed with restrooms accessible to all.

After several years of considering a variety of architectural options, the Long-Range Planning Committee has chosen a design for a level indoor pathway that will provide the least disruption to our beautiful church structure. Creating an opening near the corner of the east transept, we will use the existing sexton’s closet and acolyte room, together with the rear of the choir room, to make a level passage back to the Moseley Hall corridor. Since this will necessitate demolition of the current men’s and women’s bathrooms, new ones will be constructed with accessibility for all.

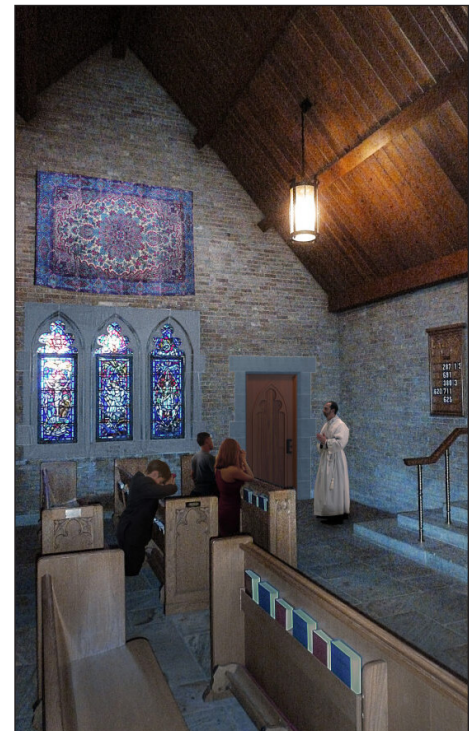
And behold, some men were bringing on a bed a man who was paralyzed, and they were seeking to bring him in and lay him before Jesus, but finding no way to bring him in, because of the crowd, they went up on the roof and let him down with his bed through the tiles into the midst before Jesus.

Luke 5: 17-19



Advantages:

- Creating ease of passage from the sanctuary or from office and nursery wings to the main fellowship areas of Moseley Hall and the Parlor.
 - Making a less strenuous level path for those carrying equipment or food from Moseley Hall to the Choir Room, Nursery, offices, Vestry Room, or Cloister.
 - Updating and improving the main restrooms.
 - Retaining the current steps and raised doors from the altar area that are used during Eucharist and during the Boar's Head Festival.
 - Maintaining the aesthetic integrity of our beautiful sanctuary.
- Note: This plan improves mobility between the sanctuary and the fellowship areas; it does not provide a level path from the pews to the altar rail.*



“I like that St. Mary’s focuses on youth. That’s one thing that drew me here many years ago.”
Kay Turner

Priority Two:

Constructing a new Outdoor Learning and Play Center on The Parish Commons (formerly the West Lawn) and removing the existing playground.

St. Mary’s, is at the heart of God’s call to us. For many decades, St. Mary’s Nursery School has offered a supportive, inspiring learning experience to children in our community. Our existing playground, though small and somewhat outdated, serves the Nursery School, our church’s children, and visitors from our neighborhood.

With the expanded property St. Mary’s now owns on the west side of our church building, we have the opportunity to create a vibrant natural space for group worship, walking, meditation, and community fellowship: a true “commons” that welcomes all who live in the neighborhood surrounding St. Mary’s.

The Long Range Planning Committee has envisioned a new, nature-themed play area as the initial project for The Parish Commons. Designed by The Natural Learning Initiative of NCSU, this innovative child environment will offer stimulating nature-based play features and outdoor learning areas. Its design reflects contemporary research that says children initiate more movement, gain more sensory stimulation, and engage in more imaginative play when exploring a nature play area.

“I have no greater joy than this: to hear that my children are living according to the truth.”

3 John 1:4





Advantages:

- Creating a larger, more welcoming play area that incorporates current research about nature play and children's physical and psychological development.
- Appealing to young families who will get to know the St. Mary's community through our care for children.
- Meeting the mission of Creation Care by fostering in young children an understanding and affinity for God's natural world.
- Removing the existing playground, which will open opportunities for later improvements in parking and driving access behind the church.



Our Budget

To RISE with JOY

Priority One:

Accessibility Hallway & New Bathrooms \$925,000

Priority Two:

Existing Playground removal
\$15,000

Sitework and new Natural Play & Learning Center
\$350,000

Campaign and Construction Financing
\$200,400

Total: \$1,490,400



Every member of St. Mary's can contribute by praying for the success of the RISE with JOY campaign.

Almighty God, we the community of St. Mary's give thanks to you for opportunities, past and present, to worship, study, and proclaim the good news of Jesus Christ. We thank you for the gifts of faith and fellowship that we have experienced during our history. As we come together to commit ourselves to your direction for our future, we lift our hearts in gratitude to you, O Lord, for all those who helped prepare the way for us – for their worship, devotion, service and care of this beloved Church and property. For these and all your blessings, we give you thanks. We pray that your Holy Spirit will guide us now as we begin this campaign for the future of St. Mary's. Trusting in your love, help us to rise joyfully with open and willing hearts so that we can continue to reach forth our hands in love to include all people, and to serve you and others as we work to expand your kingdom. Inspire us to give generously to the future of St. Mary's as an expression of our faith and commitment to your work. Grant us the grace to be a faithful people bringing your light and love to all, both now and for generations to come. We ask all of these things in the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. AMEN.

How Can YOU Give?



Discerning how much to contribute to the RISE with JOY campaign is a very personal decision. We have developed a plan that allows all members of the St. Mary's community to participate in a way that reaches the full potential of their abilities and faith. Every gift is a blessing to the church and the giver. Giving so that you truly feel a difference in your life can be a powerful spiritual experience. Reflect. Pray. Have faith in this campaign and its ability to bring JOY into the lives of so many. Give what you are led to, acting as a steward of God's gifts to you. You may make a one-time gift or pledge annual payments up to five years. You may give cash, check, or securities. Checks should be made payable to St. Mary's Episcopal Church with "Capital Campaign" written in the memo section. Every contribution is deductible in accordance with current IRS regulations. For questions about contributing, feel free to contact: Jess Edwards (252) 521-9219, Juliet Barrus (252) 361-7001, or Dee Warner (252) 521-2444.

Suggested Gift Plans Over a 5 Year Pledge

Total Gift	Per Year	Per Month	Per Week
\$50,000	\$10,000	\$833	\$193
\$25,000	\$5,000	\$416	\$96
\$15,000	\$3,000	\$250	\$58
\$10,000	\$2,000	\$167	\$38
\$7,500	\$1,500	\$125	\$29
\$5,000	\$1,000	\$83	\$19
\$2,500	\$500	\$42	\$10
\$1,500	\$300	\$25	\$6
\$1,000	\$200	\$17	\$4



**Donors of \$25,000 or more will be recognized on a plaque in the new hallway.*



RISE Beyond this Campaign

Our Long-Range Plan foresees future improvements that will take St. Mary's into its next century.

Drive and Parking Improvements

With the removal of the existing playground and construction of the new Outdoor Learning and Play Center on The Parish Commons, it will be possible to construct a new covered walkway and covered drive-under shelter near the Moseley Hall entrance door. This loggia and porte cochere will allow parishioners, visitors, and St. Mary's Nursery School parents ease of access, particularly in inclement weather. The loggia walkway will run parallel to the back of the Moseley Hall stage, turning so that it ends at the Moseley Hall door.

The existing alley drive will be redesigned as the principal back entrance to the St. Mary's property. New accessible parking slots will be constructed close to the building, and the drive that runs under the porte-cochere will turn out into the existing back parking lot, which will be redrawn and repaved. By adding accessible parking spaces, total parking at the rear of the church will be increased.

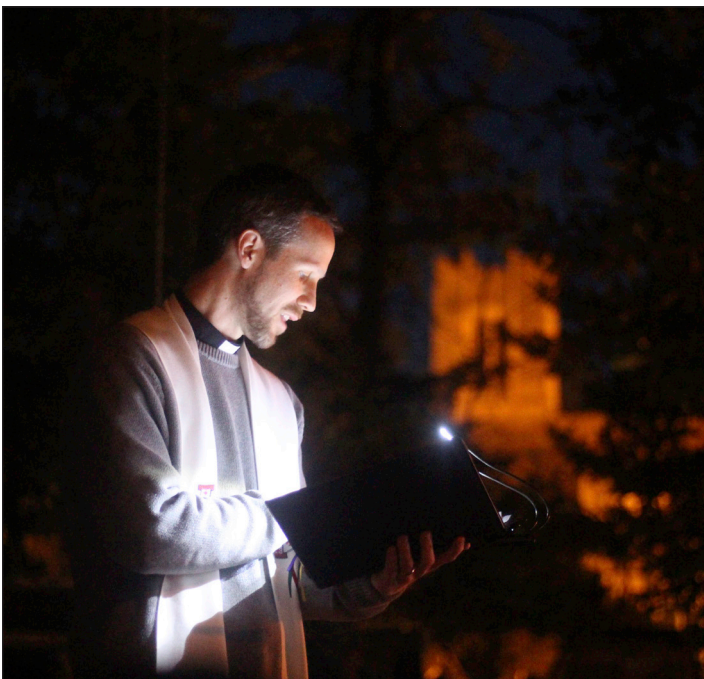




Developing The Parish Commons

The extensive open outdoor area we have been using to call “the West Lawn” will be fully developed into a park-like environment known as The Parish Commons. With the Outdoor Learning and Play Center in its midst, this green space will have features allowing for walking, gardening, meditation, worship, and community fellowship. Incorporating the traditional English terms “parish” and “common,” this commons will be open to the people of St. Mary’s and our neighborhood. It will use and celebrate the natural beauty of God’s world to promote the spiritual beauty of human relationships.

On Rountree Street, a parking area with 12 spaces (including accessible spaces) will welcome visitors to St. Mary’s. Walking paths, seating, garden areas, lawn, a labyrinth, an open-air pavilion, and a storage structure are on the “wish list” for the future of the Common. Attracting children and families with our Outdoor Learning and Play Center, we can observe and envision the best ways to further create community on this site.



Join us in the excitement of supporting these projects that will move our church toward our vision of caring for all God’s people in our parish.

St Mary’s Long-Range Plan has been developed over the past five years with the input of many different groups representing every aspect of parish life. It is a comprehensive plan that aligns with the Vision and Mission of the church. The RISE with JOY Capital Campaign is designed to fund the first phase of the property improvements that will help us achieve our Mission and Vision.

One major goal of our Vision calls for our special focus on the needs of the aged, children, and those in crisis. That call guided the Vestry as they selected the projects for this first phase of capital improvements. Other long-term options, such as a covered drop-off and increased parking, are included in the comprehensive plan and will be part of later stages in capital improvements. The Long-Range Property Plan for St Mary’s looks to the future with many elements that will make our lives as parishioners easier. However, when you consider our Vision, Mission, and Motto and the example Jesus Christ set for us in his ministry, serving others becomes a priority.

The first aspect of improvements focuses on being inclusive and meeting the needs of those who for whatever reason have mobility problems. It is extremely difficult to navigate our church if your mobility is dependent on a wheelchair, a walker, or a scooter. We can all recall family members or friends that have stopped coming to services due to the difficulty of navigating our church with dignity once assistance is needed. Yet it is during these difficult times that they need their church family the most. Therefore, accessibility is the right choice for a first project.

The second project is the creation of an outdoor learning and play center that will serve our children, who are literally the future of our church. Their needs and interests should rightfully come first. This learning and play center will provide our children will much more than a traditional playground. It will encourage creativity while stimulating brain growth and providing appropriate socialization.

Our motto is Serving with Joy. Beginning our capital improvements with these two projects will certainly move us toward the fulfillment of this motto. It will also assist in achieving our mission, vision, and goals, fulfilling our mandate to serve as Christians.

Thank you for your support!

L. Stephen Mazingo
Chair, Long Range Planning

Jess Edwards
Chair, Capital Campaign

Rev. Michael Singer
Honorary Chair of Capital Campaign

Rev. Phil Craig
Honorary Chair of Capital Campaign

Campaign Executive Committee

Skip Greene Walter Poole
Jo Parrott Vicki Kennedy
Ann Lindley Scott Turik
Stuart Lindley, Treasurer Dee Warner

Juliet Barrus
Sarah Weeks
Laury Sargeant

Vestry 2023

Vicki Kennedy Skip Greene
Jo Parrott Jess Edwards
Andrew Duppstadt Bonnie Holton

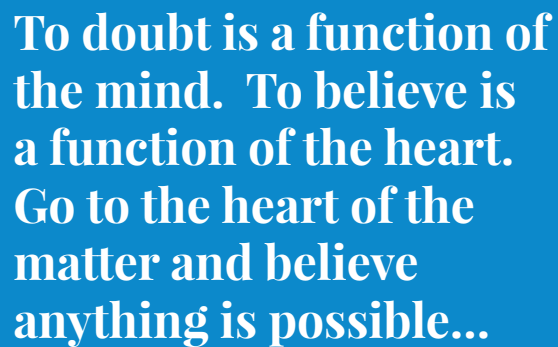
Audra Haddad
Ginny Wade
Anne Lindley

Pam Mazingo
Rob Bizzell
Jim Purnell



“Giving back to God gives me a sense of joy. He created me to be a helper, I am certain. And I have learned through life that He encourages me to help in many ways...by giving my time, my talents or through financial stewardship.” Heather Mintz

“St. Mary’s is all-encompassing. Being different doesn’t matter, what you look like or where you come from. Everyone is welcome.”
Lisa Nolan



**To doubt is a function of
the mind. To believe is
a function of the heart.
Go to the heart of the
matter and believe
anything is possible...**

“St. Mary’s is a second home.” Judy Sanders

“It’s such a welcoming church, with such vitality.” Lois Muller

“This is a great place for relationships and making new friends...and you hear a lot of laughter.” Linda and Billy Page

