



The MESSAGE

Saint Mary's Episcopal Church

108 N. King Avenue • Dyersburg, Tennessee 38024 • 731-285-3522
www.stmarysdyersburg.org • office@stmarysdyersburg.org

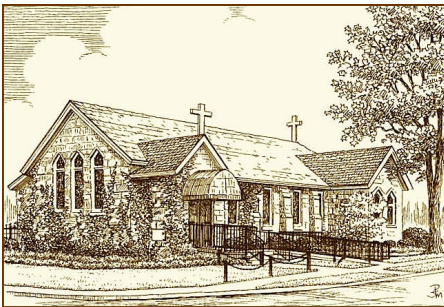
WORSHIP TIMES

Sundays: Holy Eucharist

8:00 am: Traditional Rite I without music
 10:30 am: Contemporary Rite II with music
 (sung Eucharist on the first Sunday)

Wednesdays

12:05 pm: Holy Eucharist & healing prayers
 3:20 pm: Atrium



CLERGY AND STAFF

The Rt. Rev. Don E. Johnson,
Bishop of West Tennessee

The Rev. Gary Meade, *Rector*
 Dr. Scott Roberts, *Organist*

Mrs. Melissa McLaughlin, *Parish Secretary*

VESTRY AND LAY LEADERSHIP

Dudley Davis, *Senior Warden*

Bob Dean, *Junior Warden*

Tommy Hopper, *Treasurer*

Brooke Emery

Tiffani Glass

Judi Grunert

Bobbie Milligan

John Reed

Bubba Smith

Anita Toth

A Few Words from

The Rev. Gary Meade, Rector

"And God said, 'Let the earth bring forth living creatures of every kind: cattle and creeping things and wild animals of the earth of every kind.' And it was so."

— Genesis 1:24

On the first Sunday in October we will gather for the Blessing of the Animals. On the first Sunday in November we will gather to celebrate All Saints' Sunday. Between these two rather different observances we can find a common theme: God is the Lord of all, from the smallest of creatures to the greatest of saints – and of all of us in between.

The opening chapters of the book of Genesis remind us that God created all: the heavens, the earth, and all that lives on, under, and above the earth. As we enter this new month, let us pause and remember anew that the Creator of all is and remains the Lord of all. May we also remember that the God who created everything is also counting on us to be good stewards of our Lord's creation.

We will have ample opportunities to embrace our responsibilities as stewards of God's creation in October. First, I hope you will bring your pets to the annual remembrance of the Feast Day of St. Francis on October 2 at 3:00 pm. (And surely our pets are among God's finest creations – at least mine are!) After gathering in the garden (weather permitting, of course), we will proceed into the church for a service that will include a personal blessing for each of God's creatures. I always delight in laying hands on the variety of animals that are carried in. In the past, I have offered God's blessing to dogs, cats, rats, snakes, fish, and more. I can't wait to see who shows up this year!

We can also demonstrate our stewardship of God's creation on Saturday, October 22 as we pull on our work gloves and take on the responsibility of caring for the Saint Mary's campus. No particular skills in gardening are necessary; I know this because even though I possess no such skills Dudley always finds me work to do.

And, as I mentioned above, we will celebrate All Saints' Sunday on November 6. This Sunday we will remember that we share our responsibility (and the blessings) of being stewards of God's creation with all the saints of the church: those who have preceded us; those who live among us; and those whose work has yet to begin. We do not work (or pray or weep or laugh) alone for we are just a few of the saints whose number is beyond our ability to count.

As saints of the church let us remember that we serve not only each other but also the God and Creator of all, whose Son came to teach and redeem, and whose Spirit dwells among us and within us to bring us strength, peace, and wisdom. May God who created all and blessed all pour out love and blessings on you and those whom you love this month and always.

The Episcopal Church:
 home to thoughtful
 Christians since 1785



Your servant in Christ,

Gary

Father Gary

Have You Completed a Parish Survey?

Saint Mary's Vestry is in the midst of a strategic planning process, and your help is needed. In order to articulate a clear Vision Statement, saying who we are, and a clear Mission Statement, saying who we see ourselves becoming, you are invited to complete a brief survey about our parish. The Vestry will consider all the responses to the survey as they draft these Vision and Mission Statements and then establish clear goals for achieving that vision.

If you have not completed a Parish Survey, please do so by the end of this month. It's easy, and it won't take much time. You can participate in this important process in one of three ways: pick up a copy of the survey at the church office; download and print a copy from our website (www.stmarysdyersburg.org); or complete a survey online at www.surveymonkey.com/s/StMaryVision.

All persons who are at least twelve years and and who regularly participate in the life of Saint Mary's are invited to participate. Please complete yours today!

Blessing of the Animals



The Feast Day of Saint Francis of Assisi is observed annually on October 4. Throughout the eight centuries since his life and ministry, countless depictions of Francis have included birds and other animals whom he welcomed and blessed as God's own. On **Sunday, October 2** at 3:00 pm we will continue that tradition as we gather in the garden for our own Blessing of the

Animals. After a brief welcome (and a few instructions), we will process into the nave of the church for a short service concluding with God's blessing being offered to all the creatures important in our lives, no matter if they have eight legs, or four, or two, or even no legs at all!



Share God's love and the joy of Christmas by packing a gift-filled shoe box for a hurting child overseas. Your simple gift can make an eternal difference! Please pick up a form in the back of the church or donate online by going to samaritanspurse.org/occ. Shoeboxes should be dropped off in the office by **November 11**.



There will be a Parish Workday on **Saturday, October 22 at 9:00 am**. Bring your gardening tools and your muscles and come on out and help make the church grounds more beautiful!

Cooking for Canterbury



You are invited to join the men of Saint Mary's Episcopal Church as they prepare dinner for the residents of Canterbury


Place on **Wednesday, October 19**. Preparation begins at Canterbury at 4:30; dinner will be served starting at 5:30 pm. All are



October 5: Betty Jean Hammond. **7:** Samantha Alley. **9:** Betty Ashley. Eddie Davis. Maurine Ponder. **13:** Patti Murphy. **22:** Tommy Hopper. **24:** Patty Borden. **25:** Russell Ward. **27:** David Buchannon. **28:** Bob Dean.



16: Tom and Alicia Langford

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
REGULAR WORSHIP & CHRISTIAN EDUCATION	Sundays: Holy Eucharist 8:00 am: Traditional Rite I without music 10:30 am: Contemporary Rite II with music (sung Eucharist on the first Sunday)					1
	Sundays: Christian Education 9:30 am: Adult Bible Study					
Wednesdays 12:05 pm: Holy Eucharist & healing prayers 3:20 pm: Atrium						
2 The Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost 8 and 10:30 am: Holy Eucharist 9:30 am: Adult Bible Study 3:00 pm: Blessing of the Animals Chalice: K. Brunson Lector: J. Hawkins Prayers: B. Reed Acolyte: A. Hawkins Usher: B. Milligan Vestry: J. Reed	3	4	5	6	7	8
		5:30 pm: Embracing an Adult Faith	12:05 pm: Eucharist & healing prayers 5:30 pm: Book Club NO ATRIUM	9:30 am and 6:30 pm: The Benedictine Journey		
9 The Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost 8 and 10:30 am: Holy Eucharist 9:30 am: Adult Bible Study 6:00 pm: Sunday Evening Worship Chalice: D. Palmer Lector: M. Hudson Prayers: M. S. David Acolyte: E. Glass Usher: P. Viar Vestry: A. Toth	10	11	12	13	14	15
		5:30 pm: Embracing an Adult Faith	12:05 pm: Eucharist & healing prayers 5:30 pm: Book Club NO ATRIUM	9:30 am and 6:30 pm: The Benedictine Journey		
16 The Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost 8 and 10:30 am: Holy Eucharist 9:30 am: Adult Bible Study Third Sunday Luncheon Chalice: J. Reed Lector: L. Thurman Prayers: D. Davis Acolyte: D. Palmer Usher: B. Dean Vestry: D. Davis	17	18	19	20	21	22
		5:30 pm: Embracing an Adult Faith 6:00 pm: Men's Group	12:05 pm: Eucharist & healing prayers 3:20 pm: Atrium 4:30 pm: Canterbury Dinner 5:30 pm: Book Club	9:30 am and 6:30 pm: The Benedictine Journey		9:00 am 
23 The Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost 8 and 10:30 am: Holy Eucharist 9:30 am: Adult Bible Study 6:00 pm: Sunday Evening Worship Chalice: J. Emery Lector: B. Reed Prayers: K. Horn Acolyte: S. Emery Usher: E. Glass Vestry: T. Glass	24	25	26	27	28	29
		5:30 pm: Embracing an Adult Faith	12:05 pm: Eucharist & healing prayers 3:20 pm: Atrium 5:30 pm: Book Club	9:30 am and 6:30 pm: The Benedictine Journey		
30 The Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost 8 and 10:30 am: Holy Eucharist Rite I 9:30 am: Adult Bible Study 5:30 pm: Vestry Meeting Chalice: B. Milligan Lector: A. A. Moore Prayers: W. Heathcott Acolyte: A. Kilzer Usher: J. Reed Vestry: J. Grunert	31					

Summary Budget Report for August 2011

	Actual	Budget	Difference
Regular Income (pledges, plate, etc.)	10,470.25	11,669.57	1,199.32
Income from Endowment	3,000	5,000.00	2,000.00
TOTAL	\$13,470.25	\$16,669.57	3,3199.32
Expenses — Operating	21,106.00	15,212.70	-5,893.30
Expenses — Outreach	357.94	1,425.55	1,068.06
TOTAL	21,463.94	16,638.25	-4,825.69
Income Less Expenses	\$-7,993.69		
Value of Endowment (as of 8/31/11)	\$1,129,270.83		

OUR PRAYER LIST

Those with immediate needs:

Don
John
Joyce Moore

Those with ongoing needs:

Aaron Joshua
Adam
Andy
Chloe Bird
Sue Burks King
Kaitlyn Cash
Steve Crouch
Dianne Donner
Allen Freemont
Johnnie Faye Hawkins
L. D. Gant
Lechia Holbrook
June Lannom
Teresa Layne
Beverly Magee
Patti Murphy
Amy Nance
Jamie Owens
Linda & Darrell Parker
Pat Roberts
Amber Tinsley
Ewell and Margaret Ruth Tucker
Ginger Voss

Names will be removed from our list of immediate needs after one month unless specified otherwise. Names from our list of long-term needs will only be removed upon request. To add yourself or another to this list, please complete a Prayer Request Card in the pew. You may also call or email the office.

FOR ANY PASTORAL CONCERNS

Please call Father Gary at home, 882-4925; or on his cell phone, 589-3370.

Saint Mary's Episcopal Church

108 North King Avenue
Dyersburg, Tennessee 38024

