



The MESSAGE

Saint Mary's Episcopal Church

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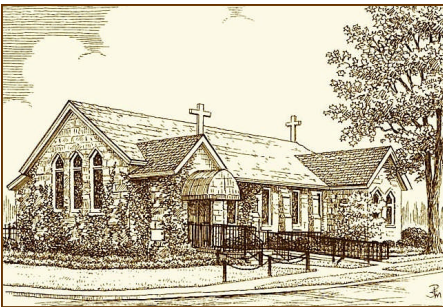
WORSHIP TIMES

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

"All scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, so that everyone who belongs to God may be proficient, equipped for every good work."

— 1 Timothy 3:16-17

September is always an exciting month in the church year (well, at least for me!). For this is the month in which our program year begins. We've had time for rest and recreation, and now we should be ready for the challenges, opportunities, and promise of new and returning ministries.

Many of those ministries are focused on Christian formation. I use the word "formation" to describe these variety of ministries that at their heart are not just about the education of our minds but also about the formation of our hearts and spirits in the love and service of our Lord. Allow me to summarize these opportunities for formation here at Saint Mary's.

Children through sixth grade are invited to return to the Atrium for the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd, our powerful ministry in which our young people grow in their faith. We'll begin the program year with a series of service projects offered this month as an outreach to our community.

Youth in seventh grades and above are invited to join me in a new youth ministry that will include time for fellowship, worship, meals, and weekly Bible studies based on the lessons appointed for each Sunday. We, too, will begin by sharing in outreach ministry in September.

We have several opportunities for adults as well this fall, including the return of Book Club, our group that meets for dinner and discussion each Wednesday starting September 7. In mid-September Barbara Reed will begin a twelve-week course of study and reflection on Benedictine spirituality. Late in September I will offer a series on "Embracing an Adult Faith" based on materials by theologian Marcus Borg. You can read about these opportunities on the next page of this newsletter.

On September 25, I invite you to a special Parish Vision Meeting at 6 pm in the Nave of the church. Your vestry will present a "snapshot" of where we've come from as a parish and where we are today. This will lay the groundwork for a parish survey and other opportunities for us to share in developing a shared vision for the future of Saint Mary's. Please plan to join me at this important meeting.

And we'll kick off all these ministries with a Rally Day Celebration on Sunday, September 11. Don't miss it!

Whew! That sounds like a lot, doesn't it? Well, we're a busy place! May God bless us in all our ministries as we embark on our new program year.

Your servant in Christ,

Gary+

Father Gary

The Episcopal Church:
 home to thoughtful
 Christians since 1785



Exploring the Benedictine Journey

Barbara Reed is offering an opportunity for a richer faith journey in a 12-week exploration of Benedictine spirituality. The group will meet on Thursday mornings from 9:30 to 11:30 in the Wheeler Room starting on September 15. Barbara explains more below:

Three vows are taken when one commits to the Benedictine Rule: stability — to stay put; obedience — to listen and respond to God's direction; and conversion of life — to remain open to transformation. We can embrace these vows as values since we are not going into monastic life. We commit to our families and church community, we listen and respond to God, and we remain open to the healing and transforming power of Christ.

The purpose of Benedictine spirituality is to make life significant and sacred and full of meaning. At the very center is hospitality. Henri Nouwen describes this hospitality as "a space around us that we create for others in which they can come, be themselves, and discover who they are." This the essence of hospitality as sought by followers of the Benedictine Way. A personal rule of life gives structure as one tries to incorporate the values into daily life.

I would like to offer 12 weeks of "exploring the Benedictine journey" using *St. Benedict's Toolbox*, by Jane Tomaine. This book introduces the Rule of St. Benedict then teaches listening to Scripture using the prayer of *Lectio Divina*. Tomaine stresses the three Benedictine Vows that make up the core of the Rule and then offers more tools for daily living including the Divine Office, hospitality, and a personal Rule of Life.

Children and Youth News



Atrium and our new program for youth will begin in September with four weeks of service projects in the community. After the Fall Intersession and Break in early October, the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd will begin in earnest for children through sixth grade on Wednesday, October 19. Also on that day, Fr. Gary will be leading youth in sixth grade and above in a new curriculum that will include weekly lessons and activities based on the readings for the following Sunday.

Adult Class Starts this Fall

What does it mean to have an "adult faith"? This thought-provoking series will ask fundamental questions about what it means to be a Christian in modern times. Drawing on short video presentations by Marcus Borg, Canon Theologian at Trinity Episcopal Cathedral in Portland, Oregon, this series of five classes will include enriching exercises and conversation. Study guides are recommended. These cost \$13 each; please let Fr. Gary know if you'd like a copy. The series will begin on Tuesday, September 27 and continue through October. The class will meet from 5:30 to 7:00 pm; participants are welcome to bring a meal.

Rally Day Celebration

Following the 10:30 am service on **Sunday, September 11** you are invited to kick off the program year at



a celebration at the home of Jimmy and Teresa Hawkins, 802 Acadian Boulevard in Dyersburg. The church will provide burgers and dogs for the grill. Please sign up for other items (drinks, side dishes, desserts, etc.) on the list posted on the bulletin board between the nave and the Wheeler Room or by calling Melissa at 285-3522. See you there!



3: Karen Horn. Anna Claire Wright. **8:** Harold Sanders. **10:** Kathy Burns. **15:** Happy Raehn. **19:** Reeder Martin. **20:** Brigitte Anderson. **22:** Sarah Emery. **25:** Elizabeth Dean Stanfield. Troy Wright. **26:** Amanda Kilzer. Caley Randolph. **28:** Dudley Davis. John Richard Dykes. Jimmy Hawkins. **29:** Anna Glass.



2: John & Martha Lannom
21: Kenny & Angela Brunson
29: Michael & Autumn Akers

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	
<p align="center">REGULAR WORSHIP & CHRISTIAN EDUCATION</p>	<p>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)</p> <p>Sundays: Christian Education 9:30 am: Adult Bible Study</p> <p>Wednesdays 12:05 pm: Holy Eucharist & healing prayers 3:20 pm: Atrium</p>			1	2	3	
	<p>4 The Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost 8 and 10:30 am: Holy Eucharist 9:30 am: Adult Bible Study</p> <p>Chalice: M. S. David Lector: B. Reed Prayers: W. Heathcott Acolyte: D. Palmer Usher: T. Glass Vestry: T. Glass</p>	<p>5</p> <p align="center">Labor Day – Office Closed</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7</p> <p>12:05 pm: Eucharist & healing prayers 3:20 pm: Atrium 5:30 pm: Book Club</p>	<p>8</p>	<p>9</p>	<p>10</p>
	<p>11 The Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost 8 and 10:30 am: Holy Eucharist 9:30 am: Adult Bible Study 6:00 pm: Sunday Evening Worship <i>Rally Day Event after 10:30 service today</i></p> <p>Chalice: L. Thurman Lector: J. Reed Prayers: B. Smith Acolytes: T. Hopper Usher: T. Hopper Vestry: J. Reed</p>	<p>12</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14</p> <p>12:05 pm: Eucharist & healing prayers 3:20 pm: Atrium 5:30 pm: Book Club</p>	<p>15</p> <p>9:30 am: The Benedictine Journey</p>	<p>16</p>	<p>17</p>
	<p>18 The Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost 8 and 10:30 am: Holy Eucharist 9:30 am: Adult Bible Study</p> <p>Chalice: M. Hudson Lector: B. Milligan Prayers: K. Horn Acolyte: E. Glass Usher: B. Dean Vestry: B. Milligan</p>	<p>19</p>	<p>20</p> <p>6:00 pm: Men's Group</p>	<p>21</p> <p>12:05 pm: Eucharist & healing prayers 3:20 pm: Atrium 5:30 pm: Book Club</p>	<p>22</p> <p>9:30 am: The Benedictine Journey</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24</p>
	<p>25 The Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost 8 and 10:30 am: Holy Eucharist 9:30 am: Adult Bible Study 5:00 pm: Vestry Meeting 6:00 pm: Parish Vision Meeting</p> <p>Chalice: B. Reed Lector: B. Smith Prayers: D. Palmer Acolyte: C. Randolph Usher: B. Milligan Vestry: B. Smith</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27</p> <p>5:30 pm: Embracing an Adult Faith</p>	<p>28</p> <p>12:05 pm: Eucharist & healing prayers 3:20 pm: Atrium 5:30 pm: Book Club</p>	<p>29</p> <p>9:30 am: The Benedictine Journey</p>	<p>30</p>	

Summary Budget Report for July 2011

	Actual	Budget	Difference
Regular Income (pledges, plate, etc.)	5,566.62	11,669.57	6,102.95
Income from Endowment	10,000.00	5,000.00	-5000.00
TOTAL	\$15,566.62	\$16,669.57	1,102.95
Expenses — Operating	18,680.48	15,212.70	-3467.78
Expenses — Outreach	168.68	1,425.55	1,256.87
TOTAL	18,849.16	16,638.25	-2,210.91
Income Less Expenses	\$-3,282.54		
Value of Endowment (as of 7/31/11)	\$1,171,963.89		

Parish Vision Meeting

Please join us for this important meeting on **Sunday, September 25** at 6:00 pm. Members of the Vestry will present a “snapshot” of Saint Mary’s: where we’ve been and where we are today. This is an important step in the process by which our parish will articulate a vision for our future. Please plan to attend this important opportunity!



OUR PRAYER LIST

Those with immediate needs:

Teddy Davis
Don
Brenda Irwin
Ted Owens
Lynn Smith
Jenny Spence

Those with ongoing needs:

Aaron Joshua
Adam
Andy
Chloe Bird
Sue Burks King
Kaitlyn Cash
Steve Crouch
Dianne Donner
Allen Freemont
Johnnie Faye Hawkins
Brenda Irwin
L. D. Gant
Lechia Holbrook
June Lannom
Teresa Layne
Emma Kate McNeely
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.

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