



# The Messenger



*The newsletter of St. Mary's Church, an Episcopal-Lutheran Community*

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**JANUARY 2009**

## **Daniel in the Lions' Den**

*Father Macgill has chosen the title for his monthly newsletter message  
from the Old Testament book of Daniel (chapter 6).*

We have passed through Christmas and the next "big event" is the Epiphany of our Lord. The Epiphany is the manifestation of Christ to the peoples of the earth. Christians chose January 6 to celebrate several manifestations of Jesus's divinity. These included his birth, the coming of the Magi, his baptism, and the wedding at Cana where he changed the water into wine.

The coming of the Magi is celebrated on the Feast Day of the Epiphany on January 6 in the Book of Common Prayer. We celebrate The Baptism of our Lord on the first Sunday after the Epiphany.

May all of the manifestations of Christ's divinity bring you continued faith, hope and peace in the days to come.

Peace in Him,

*Father Dan*

## Congregational Meeting Report

The congregation held its annual meeting after worship on Sunday, December 7. Two new Vestry members, Helle Jorgensen and Kristin McFarland, were elected to three year terms. The congregation thanked outgoing Vestry members Julian Anderson and Bob Goslee for their years of service.

The 2009 budget was discussed and approved. In addition to the budget, reports from Father Dan, Senior Warden Pat Casaw, Junior Warden Bert Yepko, the ECW, and the Centennial Celebration Committee are posted on the bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall. Each member of the congregation is encouraged to read the reports. 2008 was a busy and successful year at St. Mary's!

### *St. Mary's Prepares for Diocesan Convention*

Father Dan Macgill, Linda Hadden, Pat Casaw, and Van Reid have been chosen to represent St. Mary's at the 126th convention of the Diocese of East Carolina. The convention will be held February 5-7 in New Bern, and our delegates will give a report to the congregation upon their return.

#### **ST. MARY'S CHURCH 2009 VESTRY**

*Senior Warden*  
Jimbo Robbins

*Junior Warden*  
Bert Yepko

*Treasurer*  
Bettie Phelps

*Clerk*  
Dede Yepko

Pat Casaw

Linda Hadden

Helle Jorgensen

Kristin McFarland

#### **Help Us Continue to Grow in 2009!**

St. Mary's Church is in the midst of a period of growth and change, and our 2009 budget reflects the opportunities and challenges we face in the coming year. Based on current estimates, we will have a budget deficit of approximately \$13,000. We will be forced to borrow from our reserves in order to cover this deficit.

If every family increased their 2009 pledge by 2 to 5%, we could significantly lower the amount that we have to borrow from our reserves. Please prayerfully consider this opportunity, and help our church to continue to grow and reach out to others in our area. Thank you!

## **Welcome, Karen!**

Our new parish administrator, Karen Shelley, officially began work in her new position on January 2. Her duties will include weekly worship bulletins, the monthly newsletter, volunteer schedules, and other administrative duties.

Karen will be working from home on Tuesdays and Wednesdays and at the church on Thursday from approximately 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM. You can reach her at the church by phone (259-5541), by email (stmarysburgaw@bellsouth.net), or by leaving a note in her basket in the Fellowship Hall.

Karen has many gifts and will be a wonderful asset to St. Mary's. Please take a moment to call or email her to introduce yourself. She is eager to get to know everyone and become part of our church family.

## **VOLUNTEER SCHEDULING**

Beginning in February, Karen Shelley will handle the scheduling of all volunteers for worship, Sunday School, and Coffee Hour. If you are regularly scheduled to serve on Sunday mornings, and you plan to be away during the month of February, please advise Karen of your absence by the newsletter deadline (January 15). She will do her best to schedule around your absence so that you do not need to find a replacement.

If you do need to make a change to the schedule after it has been published, please try to find a replacement. If you do trade with someone else, please be sure to write the change on the schedule on the bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall OR call or email Karen to let her know about it. Thanks for your cooperation!

## ***Thank you!!!***

- *Bob Goslee and Julian Anderson*, for their years of service on the Vestry. Their dedication and leadership during a time of great change has been a real blessing to our congregation.
- *MarthaAnn Blake*, for serving as our volunteer parish coordinator and helping us with scheduling and special events in 2008.
- *Valde & Helle Jorgensen*, for the beautiful new TV/DVD player given to the church to be used for Sunday School and other events.

## **Wine Tasting a Big Success!**

St. Mary's first annual Wine and Cheese tasting was a wonderful event! A good time was had by all, and \$850 was raised for the ECW's community outreach projects. Many thanks to Candi Alexander and Annette Olesen for their superb organizing efforts and to Julian and Donna Anderson for their delicious food and kitchen flair. Thanks also to all those who bought and sold tickets and helped with the hors d'oeuvres.

Mark your calendars—the second annual Wine and Cheese tasting will be December 4, 2009!

## ECW (Every Church Woman) News

December was busy! The ECW and St. Mary's helped support the same family for Christmas as they did for Thanksgiving. The family of six was identified by the counselor at Burgaw Elementary School. Approximately \$100.00 worth of food was given to the family in need, as well as some clothing and one small toy for each of the children. Thank you to all who donated to this effort.

The ladies also prepared twenty Christmas gift bags for the congregation's children and shut-ins. Each bag held a hand-made ornament, candy, cookies, and fruit. All this in addition to the Wine and Cheese Tasting! Congratulations on a great month!

### *Note of Thanks*

Jonathan and Michelle Glass would like to say thanks to everyone for their support and generosity for Arabella's baptism and shower. We really feel like family and it's because of the closeness and wonderful way of each member.

### **Sunday School Teachers Needed!!!**

WANTED: adults who want to share their faith with the children of St. Mary's Church. Candidates of any age and either gender are welcome! Please see Annette Olesen if you would like to help out with this important ministry.

### **PRAYER LIST**

Please continue to pray for MarthaAnn Blake, Helen Crouch, Jackie Robbins, the Von Oesen family, and John Wynne. Also, please pray for Jeannette Patterson (sister of Linda Hadden), Joe Peace Woodlief, Jr. (cousin of Linda Hadden), and Bonnie O'Connor (daughter of Bettie Phelps).

#### *January Birthdays*

01-Amberlyn DuBois  
01-Kathy Reid  
09-Barbara Batchelor  
11-Bob Goslee  
11-Kristin McFarland  
16-John Wynne  
17-Milton Oppegaard  
17-Andrew Zygmunt  
17-Anna Zygmunt  
25-Kyra Corcoran

#### *January Baptismal Birthdays*

12-Quinn Corcoran  
13-Michelle Glass  
27-Marion Clark

## January 2009 Sunday Servers

**JANUARY 4**

*Second Sunday after Christmas*

Presider	Father Dan Lynch
Lay Assistant/Cantor	Brian Zygmunt
Crucifer	Jimbo Robbins
Oblations	Valde & Helle Jorgensen
Usher	Valde Jorgensen
Sunday School	Annette Olesen
Altar Guild	Pat Casaw
Coffee Hour Angel	Marion Clark

**JANUARY 11**

*First Sunday after Epiphany/Baptism of Our Lord*

Presider	Father Dan Macgill
Lay Assistant	Pat Casaw
Crucifer	Bill Davis
Oblations	Griff & Joan Weld
Usher	Griff Weld
Sunday School	TBA
Altar Guild	Marion Clark
Coffee Hour Angels	Jimbo & Heidi Robbins

**JANUARY 18**

*Second Sunday after Epiphany*

Presider	Father Dan Macgill
Lay Assistant	Bill Davis
Crucifer	Kristin McFarland
Oblations	Jimbo & Heidi Robbins
Usher	Jimbo Robbins
Sunday School	TBA
Altar Guild	Annette Olesen
Coffee Hour Angels	Bob & Katherine Goslee

**JANUARY 25**

*Third Sunday after Epiphany*

Presider	Father Dan Macgill
Lay Assistant	Linda Hadden
Crucifer	Brian Zygmunt
Oblations	Kim Davies & Lynn Goddard
Usher	Kim Davies
Sunday School	TBA
Altar Guild	Heidi Robbins
Coffee Hour Angel	Joyce Harrell

**VESTRY MEMBER OF THE MONTH:**

Pat Casaw

### *January Calendar Notes*

<b>Sunday, January 4</b>	Worship at 11:00 AM (Lutheran) Coffee Hour following worship
<b>Monday, January 5</b>	ECW meeting at 10:00 AM Girl Scouts meeting at 6:30 PM
<b>Sunday, January 11</b>	Worship at 11:00 AM (Episcopal) Coffee Hour following worship
<b>Monday, January 12</b>	Girl Scouts meeting at 6:30 PM
<b>Thursday, January 15</b>	Mid-week Eucharist at 11:30 AM <i>Deadline for February newsletter submissions &amp; scheduling requests</i>
<b>Sunday, January 18</b>	Vestry meeting at 9:00 AM Worship at 11:00 AM (Episcopal) Coffee Hour following worship
<b>Monday, January 19</b>	Girl Scouts meeting at 6:30 PM
<b>Thursday, January 22</b>	Mid-week Eucharist at 11:30 AM
<b>Sunday, January 25</b>	Worship at 11:00 AM (Episcopal) Coffee Hour following worship
<b>Monday, January 26</b>	Girl Scouts meeting at 6:30 PM
<b>Thursday, January 29</b>	Mid-week Eucharist at 11:30 AM

### *February Calendar Notes*

<b>February 5-7</b>	Diocesan Convention in New Bern
<b>Tuesday, February 24</b>	Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper
<b>Wednesday, February 25</b>	Ash Wednesday worship