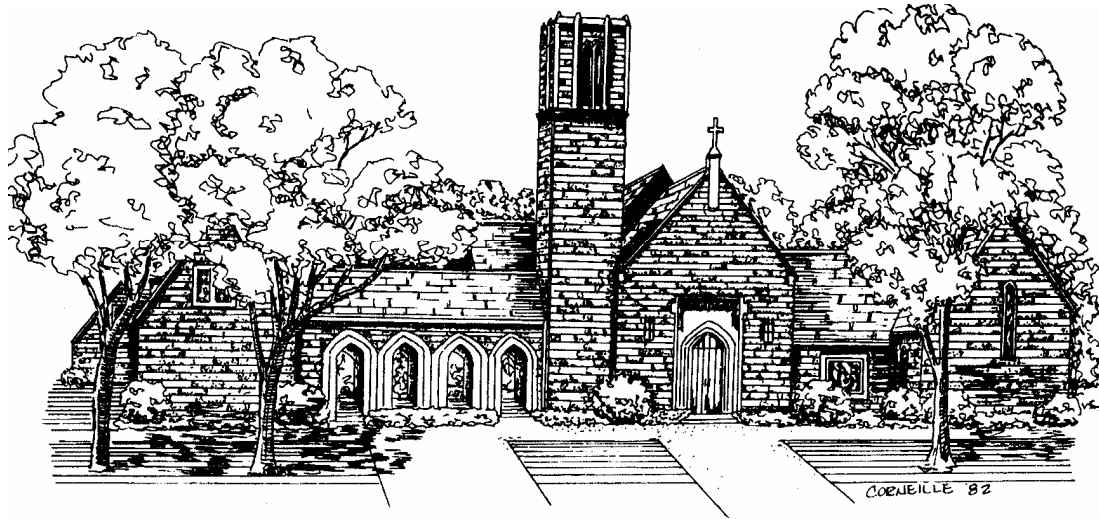




# St. Mary's Episcopal Church

800 Rountree Street  
Kinston, North Carolina 28501-3655



## The 2013 Annual Parish Meeting December 8, 2013

*St. Mary's Episcopal Church invites you to serve and worship  
God in our loving Christian family.*

Mission Statement

**Annual Parish Meeting**  
**December 8, 2013**  
**11:15 a.m.**

Opening Prayer - Almighty and everliving God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth, hear our prayers for this parish family. Strengthen the faithful, arouse the careless, and restore the penitent. Grant us all things necessary for our common life, and bring us all to be of one heart and mind within your holy Church; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Minutes of the December 9, 2012 Annual Parish Meeting

Reports:

Rector – The Rev'd A. Michael Singer  
Assistant Rector – The Rev'd Thomas P. H. Warren  
Senior Warden – Mr. P. C. Barwick  
Junior Warden—Mr. Bill Connolly  
Personnel Commission—Mr. Stuart Stroud  
Music Ministry – Mr. Nick Voermans  
Stewardship Commission—Mr. Scott Newton  
Treasurer – Mr. Stuart Lindley  
Worship Commission – Mrs. Anne Lindley  
Adult Christian Formation – Mrs. Cyndi Rafferty, Mr. Clifton Carey  
Children's Ministry—Shelly Yarbrough  
Pastoral Care - Mrs. Cyndi Rafferty, Mr. Joe Stark  
Outreach Commission – Mrs. Laury Sargeant

Old Business:

New Business:

Election of four individuals to the Vestry for a three-year term: Susan Fox, Stephen Hill, Ike Hines, Barbara LaRoque, Bob Nielsen, and Kevin Zoltek

Election of three individuals as delegates to Diocesan Convention – New Bern February 6-7th, 2014.

**The Blessing**

May the Sun of Righteousness shine upon you and scatter the darkness from before your path; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. *Amen.*

Dismissal

Rector Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.  
People: *Thanks be to God.*

**2012 Annual Parish Meeting  
St. Mary's Episcopal Church  
Kinston, NC  
December 9, 2012**

The meeting was called to order at 11:30 a.m. Father Michael Singer offered an opening prayer. The first order of business was approval of the minutes from the Dec. 11, 2011, Annual Meeting. The minutes were accepted as printed in the program.

Father Michael submitted the Rector's Report by title. He commented on the decrease in attendance and the importance of the Christian message in a media-rich world. He summarized the Church's programs that continue to change lives and reminded us of the importance of evangelism in our community. He suggested we invite someone to Church. He asked that we think about how the classrooms might be renovated and how the grounds can be improved. And as a final reminder to each of us, he remarked on the importance of ministering one-on-one.

Father Tom Warren submitted the Assistant Rector's Report by title. He shared his appreciation for the support he and his family received during this past year and ordination. He addressed the guidance of Youth by letting them know that they are not alone. A Youth Formation Council which meets monthly to discuss programs and plan for the future of our youth at St. Mary's was formulated this year. The youth will be embarking on a mission trip July 7-13, 2013, to Glory Ridge in the mountains of Madison County, NC.

In regards to Christian Formation, Father Tom reported the use of new curriculum this year. The structure also changed as the J2A format was dissolved and one class for middle school and one class for high school was created. There was also the development of a Children's Chapel twice monthly at the 10:00 a.m. liturgy. In closing Father Tom stated that the most important lessons of faith begin at home. He thanked Father Michael for his continued leadership and guidance and asked that everyone take the motto, "You Only Pilgrim Once."

Clifton Carey submitted the Senior Warden's Report by title. He reported that there were no major unresolved issues. He expressed a need for a team to serve the nursery on Sunday mornings with a leader to coordinate the volunteers.

Mark Herring submitted the Junior Warden's Report by title. He reported on property maintenance issues that have been repaired including the leak in the bell tower and the removal of the oak tree on Rhem Street. All trees and bushes were trimmed to improve property appearance. Stuart Lindley, Treasurer, submitted his report by title and reported a successful 2012 Stewardship Campaign. He anticipates pledges meeting budgeted expenses by year end and reported almost all expense items are within budget. The 2013 budget will be similar to this year's budget. He anticipates pledges to decline due to present economic conditions.

Nick Voermans, Director of Music and Organist, submitted his report by title. He reported that he is focused on developing the adult and youth choirs. He shared his plans for the future of the music program. For the Worship Commission, Anne Lindley submitted her report by title. She thanked the clergy staff for their dedication to worship, and the Director of Music and Organist. She extended appreciation to all volunteers whose on-going hard work, make our worship possible.

The report for the Stewardship Committee, led by Bill Connolly, was presented by title. The Stewardship Brochure has been completed and mailed. The importance of stewardship has been expressed at both services and with weekly email. Pledge cards are being returned. Final results will be presented at the January board meeting.

Laury Sargeant and Paul Busick reported on the Outreach Commission by title. The disbursement of outreach funds continues to follow traditional practices. St. Mary's continued its strong support of many outreach projects as in past years. In addition, the parish members stepped out of their comfort zone this year and sent its first mission team to Mosovi, Dominican Republic. St. Mary's also opened its doors and hearts to our closest neighbors by hosting a summer block party. A fundraiser in the form of a "Cookie Walk" is planned to raise funds to support our partnership with the Dominican Republic Episcopal Church of Divina Gracia in Mosovi.

The Adult Christian Formation Report, led by Clifton Carey, was given by title. Seasonal opportunities were available this year with presentations during Lent and occasional evening Bible study. A survey was sent requesting topics for discussion. Responses were received from all directions. He shared some of the discussions and books studies that were led this past year.

With no old business, ballots were distributed to elect four new vestry members. The results of the vestry election were announced: Stuart Stroud, Joe Stark, Scott Newton, and Cyndi Rafferty will serve three year terms ending in 2015. Ron Layton, P. C. Barwick, and Rachel Singer had all agreed to have their names placed in nomination to be St. Mary's delegates to Diocesan Convention in February. Motion was made to accept delegates. It was seconded. There was a unanimous vote by voice.

Under new business, Susan Fox announced that there were 3 candidates interested in the Boar's Head Yule Sprite. Lexi Connolly was chosen for this spot.

Mary-French Evans offered thanks to Emily Exum for her leadership with the Altar Guild. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,  
Lee Albritton

## **REPORT OF THE RECTOR**

*"The greatest single cause of atheism in the world today is Christians: who acknowledge Jesus with their lips, walk out the door, and deny Him by their lifestyle. That is what an unbelieving world simply finds unbelievable." - - - Brennan Manning*

I believe most people see there are two different ways the Gospel is being preached in America today: on one hand there's the fire and brimstone, stand on a soapbox to condemn people to hell and hopefully that brings them to Jesus. The second approach is the prosperity gospel coming today through America's churches pulling in people because it says, we have a message that's going to make all your problems disappear - - by coming to church, by doing all these good things, your life is going to blossom - you'll get lots of money, things are finally going to go your way.

The problem with all of this is that our relationship with Christ doesn't promise rainbows everyday - - we're going to be tested, things are going to happen that we will have to struggle with. Christianity is more than dos and don'ts. The promise is, that God loves us, God wants the best for us and He offers a better way to live life.

In 2014 we at St. Mary's will be, "Celebrating Who We Are". It's our time to stand up and celebrate who we are and what we have to offer at St. Mary's Episcopal Church. Lately I've heard the same conversations as you, "We need to be doing what . . . is doing. Look how they are attracting people and growing."

I think that at this time, right now, St. Mary's has something to offer Kinston. We offer a middle way, something people are searching for. Each and every day we strive to bring the Kingdom of God a little closer in all that we do. We have a rich church. Yes, we have been blessed with financial resources, wonderful facilities and compassionate people but we are blessed with a wealth of other resources: God's Word in scripture, *The Book of Common Prayer*, a book that many Christian traditions borrow from, and people who come to us with a desire to want to serve people in mission and outreach. Let's be our best, and invite others to join us and become part of us.

In the Book of Acts we read what the Church is supposed to look like, "*They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. Everyone was filled with awe at the many wonders and signs performed by the apostles. All the believers were together and had everything in common. They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need. Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.*" - - - Acts 2:42-47

The Church is a community of people doing life together. I believe it's a better way to live life. We are called to live and act . . . to be different than the world in which we live. But many people are finding it increasing difficult to live the Christian life; we desire to do only those things we feel will make us happy.

Critics have stated that America needs a great spiritual awakening. Something we haven't seen in over 60 years. In part, I think that may be true. But you know what, there is no great master program out there which Church growth experts have that will double or triple church attendance and programs. The program was given by a man from Galilee over 2,000 years ago as the only plan. There is no backup plan. No plan B. "*Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.*" - - - Matthew 28:19. That is God's plan. He expects each of us to do our part.

Each one of us must decide for ourselves, "*as for me and my house we will serve the Lord.*" - - - Joshua 24:15. If the Christian life is something you want, does your manner of life bear it out? Will people know that you are a Christian by the way you live your life? By prayer, study, involvement in ministry, by reaching out in love to others, by regular church attendance and fellowship . . . ? Are you passing along those norms to your children? or hoping they'll pick it up somewhere along the way.

I am grateful to all the dedicated people who work so hard to keep this community running smoothly. Many of their names are attached to reports in front of you. I won't name everyone for fear of leaving someone out. However, there are two people who must be mentioned. They work daily in the church office and without whom we as a parish would be lost. I have worked with Marilyn Wiggins and Shelly Sparrow for several years now, they are like family. So many things land on their desks to get done that nobody knows about. They work with great efficiency and accuracy and make things run smoothly for me and you. Change is a part of parish ministry. In the weeks to come we will say farewell to Shelly, who leaves us at the end of the year. We are already in an active search to find a new Parish Secretary. Thank you Shelly for all you have done while at St. Mary's Church. You will be missed.

This year has been a year of transition for Christian formation with children as well. In August, Shelly Yarbrough was hired by the Vestry, in a part-time capacity, to be our Director of Children's Ministry. Shelly has changed our educational setup for children through the Fifth Grade with *Project FreeFALL*. She has brought an energy to our Sunday School that gets children who attend excited about learning about Christ and their own Christian journey. There is music and motion, learning and growing. It is unfortunate that so many parents just don't make Christian formation a priority for their children or themselves. The pressures of Sunday sports, lunch, children having to be entertained, and just needing some downtime after a hectic week, have led to a sharp decline in Sunday School for St. Mary's and many churches. The end result, our children don't know Jesus. Take the time to talk to Shelly. Her enthusiasm is contagious!

We continue to be blessed with the ministry of our Assistant Rector, the Rev. Tom Warren, with his wife Holly, and son Jude. I am so glad they are here. Tom does outstanding work with our youth. He has worked to develop strong relationships with our young people. Tom is growing in his priesthood as a preacher, teacher and is developing his pastoral skills. He will make a great leader in his own parish one day. Tom has a conscience and a desire to minister to people, to heal the broken hearted and to bind up the wounded.

Our music ministry continues to evolve. Nick Voermans, our Organist and Director of Music, is a recent graduate of Westminster Choir College of Rider University. Entering his second year with us, he is working to develop St. Mary's music ministry. Nick is a good organist. We thank Nick for his continued work and would urge anyone interested in learning more about St. Mary's music ministry to contact Nick.

Two unsung heroes in our parish are our Sunday nursery workers Heather Wentz and Kaitlyn Hill. Both work with our youngest members in the Sunday nursery. Thank you both for your dedication and time you spend with our children.

My thanks and appreciation goes to your vestry. Many good conversations about long-term ministry and organization have begun this year and will be carried over into 2014. I wish to express my appreciation to Juliet Barrus, Clifton Carey, Joel Gilmore and Laury Sargeant who leave the vestry after serving a three-year-term. Thank you for your time and sharing your gifts in ministry. Also, I want to thank P. C. Barwick for serving as Senior Warden this year and to Bill Connolly for serving as Junior Warden.

In the New Year, St. Mary's will do what the Church has always done; we will continue to minister to broken people. In a way we are all broken people. For some of us it may have to do with personal relationships; for others, we may be broken financially or physically; and yet for many it may be in our relationship with Jesus Christ. We will remain faithful and continue to do the work that God has called us to do.

We enter 2014 with challenges. We must grow as a parish, both in numbers, resources, and in Spirit. Any student of scripture understands that God's work is always about change. In all cases that change begins with each and every one of us. I hope you will ask yourself, "How can I serve God?" We live in a time where everyone or almost everyone is busy. Are we busy doing God's work? Are we doing the things God wants us to do, or do we fill the hours of the day with work and what gives us pleasure? Now, more than any other time in our history, people are spending more time, and more money doing what gives them pleasure. I can assure you that people throughout history, who are the most happy, have been those who said, "Our heart is restless, until it rests in you." (St. Augustine of Hippo - from the *Confessions*)

It would be easy for us to be discouraged and feel overwhelmed. However it is in times like these that a parish can pull together and work out solutions. The wardens, vestry and I appreciate the work of all the groups in our parish who share ministry in this place. 2014 will be a year where we will depend on all people to get involved in some way at the church. If you do not serve on a commission presently, please give serious consideration to this important work. The church needs the gifts and skills you have to offer.

As we look forward we must do something that might be uncomfortable for many of us, share the Gospel of Jesus Christ. That will mean different things to different people. Above all it means that we must be a growing congregation which offers hospitality to everyone. We must be open and engaging. We must share the message of salvation through Jesus Christ. We must share the spirit of faith and hope. There are many people starving to hear about Jesus Christ, people who are burdened by the circumstances of life. Be Christ's light to them.

As we move into the next year with its many challenges, I would urge all of you to be gentle with one another, treating each other with love and respect. Learn the gift of service, hospitality and charity this year. Remember service is not a relationship between an expert and a problem. It is rather a relationship

between people who bring the full resources of their combined humanity to the table and share them generously. Service is vital to living out our Christian life. May Christ fill you and shine the light of His love through you that others will see Christ in you.

Respectfully submitted,  
The Rev'd A. Michael Singer  
Rector

## **REPORT OF THE ASSISTANT RECTOR**

### *What's Your Story?*

Stories help us understand things from different perspectives and excite our imaginations. That's probably why stories were a common way that Jesus went about His teaching. His stories taught the people around Him - and continue to teach us - about God, the Kingdom of Heaven, and how He would have us live and make decisions every day. It can be said that the major project of the church has always been to help the people of this world understand how our individual stories are inseparable from the story of God: Father, Son, and Spirit.

Over the summer, the Youth Council met to make plans for the coming year. The Youth Council is comprised of some senior members of the EYC and adult leaders (this year Melissa Glen, Mary Stuart Stroud, John-Luke LaRoque, Ridge Mazingo, new Jr. EYC leader Tori Martin, new Sr. EYC leaders Jimmy & Susanne Ballard, vestry representatives Anne Lindley & Juliet Barrus, and youth leader Holly Warren). The youth were clear that many of their most memorable and formative experiences involved story-telling.

So we have run with that theme this year at EYC: exploring the lessons that Jesus shares with us through His parables while we also share our own life stories... the ones that are fun, exciting, sad, anxious, and everything in between. All of our stories are important and telling them helps us to be a strong community in the body of Christ, especially as we are reminded of the truth that our individual stories are wrapped up in Jesus' story of love and healing that calls us to follow Him and be made whole!

Here are some EYC highlights from the past calendar year:

- 7 days living, playing, singing, eating, Eno-ing, praying, rafting, getting to know each other and our neighbors, and *Making Work Worship* in Madison County at Glory Ridge. Glory Ridge provided a remarkable setting where it became crystal clear how our stories connect with the stories others through the Story of Jesus Christ. Only 225 days to go until we go back!
- Recalling at EYC one evening the story that Jesus told of the workers in the vineyard from Matthew 20 and then being actual workers in a vineyard, with eager barefooted volunteers stomping and mashing up grapes. All workers were compensated with whatever payment they were promised, but some received additional gifts... and then we spoke about grace and fairness and justice.
- Sharing stories of those who have gone before us and talking about God's promises of life after death around a campfire after another fun Halloween Carnival.  
Learning the compelling story of the land at Common Ground as we planted hopeful trees around the community garden there.
- Leading you, the whole of the St. Mary's community, in worshipping God in the context of the Pentecost story last May and looking forward to another opportunity of worship and fellowship tonight.
- Reminding former members of the St. Mary's EYC during their college exam time through sending care packages that though they have moved on to another season of their lives, they are very much still a part of the story of our community of faith.

- Making new stories as we share special moments in life with each other like sporting events, music concerts, and the occasional 11 mile Tough Mudder obstacle course run that Ridge and I ran together.
- And, of course, talking about all of these stories as we gather weekly around a common table to break bread together, made possible by the hospitality of so many of you who feed us – THANK YOU!

While everything above has to do with forming a Christian community and being formed by it, much of my ministry at St. Mary's has also been involved in the programs that more directly teach the Story of Christ's salvation through Christian Formation. Fr. Michael invited me to lead the confirmation class for adults this year and I have thoroughly enjoyed the gatherings of our *Journey In Faith* thus far. Additionally, the past two Advent book studies have been rich with life-giving conversation and theological exploration.

This past June St. Mary's hosted the Vacation Bible School along with partners at First Presbyterian Church and Gordon Street Christian Church. Under the direction of Mrs. Shelly Yarbrough, Moseley Hall was transformed into a regal castle and kids learned about Christ our King at Kingdom Rock. Many thanks to all who played a part in that exciting week!

Shelly's creativity and energy towards teaching the young ones in our community at VBS and in the Children's Chapel that she began in 2012 and has continued this year led to her being offered a position as Children's Minister at St. Mary's. Shelly jumped right in and developed an original and interactive program for kids that has breathed new life into the Christian Formation hour as they Feel, Absorb, Love, and Live God's word at *Project FreeFALL*.

The youth Christian Formation programs continue to be led by dedicated adults who care deeply not only about teaching God's story but also sharing their stories of living the life of faith with Middle and High Schoolers. I am very grateful to all members of St. Mary's who play a part in these ministries!

Finally, I am thankful to be in ministry not only with a rector and staff, but also a vestry and wider church community who recognizes that our individual stories are truly meant to be intertwined with the stories of others around us. Thank you for your grace as I continue to serve this country in the Coast Guard Reserves. Also, we are not an isolated church, but, in the words of Bishop Santosh Marray, actually part of a mega-network of churches: the diocese! So, thank you for your encouragement as I have served alongside sisters and brothers at the diocesan level at Happening weekends, on the Bishop Search & Nominating committee, and on the Trinity Center Board of Managers.

Holly, Jude, and I have been blessed to be a part of the St. Mary's story for these few years and look forward to growing in faith through God's Story as our time together continues.

Respectfully submitted,  
The Rev'd Thomas P. H. Warren  
Assistant Rector

## **REPORT OF THE SENIOR WARDEN**

It has been a real pleasure serving as your Senior Warden this year and working with Father Michael, Father Tom, a very enthusiastic and dedicated Vestry, a very competent and hard-working office staff and lots of Parish volunteers. Thanks to Marilyn Wiggins, our Parish Administrator, and Shelly Sparrow. Shelly will be leaving us at the end of December. We wish her the best. We owe special thanks to Bill Connelly, Junior Warden, for an outstanding job which included coordinating numerous repair and replacement projects. Stuart



Lindley, our Treasurer, continues to do an superb job contributing greatly to our financial stability. We are in a good financial condition. However, our goals and obligations for next year in outreach, inreach, education, diocesan support, utilities, employee salaries, building and grounds maintenance and other expenses almost certainly require an ever increasing budget. I hope that all of you will keep this continuing challenge (and opportunity) in mind.

A special thanks to my fellow Vestry members for their dedicated participation in providing leadership for the Commissions and the overall activities of the Parish. To the six individuals who have agreed to have their names placed on the ballot today for a three year term you obviously understand the need for an active and working Vestry. Thanks for your commitment!

Respectfully submitted,  
P. C. Barwick  
Senior Warden

## **REPORT OF THE JUNIOR WARDEN**

During 2013 we handled several property and maintenance issues.

- Added Copper Awning Over the Pre-School Entrance Door
- Covered Floors throughout the Nursery School Rooms and Hallways
- Replaced Roof Over Moseley Hall
- Replaced Hot Water Heater in Rectory
- Changed Out Landscaping Around Church

If anyone has any further questions or concerns about any of the projects mentioned within this report please feel free to let me know.

Respectively submitted,  
Bill Connolly  
Junior Warden

## **PERSONNEL COMMISSION**

St. Mary's is blessed to have a talented and dedicated professional staff. You have no idea of the time and effort that Father Michael, Father Tom, Nick, Marilyn and Shelly put in, over and beyond their specific job descriptions, to make our parish run smoothly. It has been a quiet year for the Personnel Commission, which is a good thing. Unfortunately, we are losing Shelly Sparrow who has been an outstanding office assistant. We are searching for candidates to fill this part-time administrative position. Please let us know if you are aware of anyone who would like to apply. Thanks to Shelly for all of her hard work and good luck in the future.

Respectfully submitted,  
Stuart Stroud, Chair

## **MUSIC AT ST. MARY'S**

This year, the music program was able to evolve, mainly with the reactivation of the Youth Choir. However, it has been decided that the Youth Choir should be a seasonal choir as the youth in our parish are busy with other activities and homework. Youth Choir rehearsals have been moved to Thursdays at 5:30 PM and so far, we have had more participation on Thursdays. In this setting, the youth have a musical voice within

the parish but are not pressured to be at a weekly rehearsal. The adult choir is in fairly good shape but numbers must grow. In the coming year the choir will be engaging in various community outreach opportunities. This is a time to acquaint the community with our singing and possibly recruit additional members to the choir.

We will be using Sitterson fund monies for our new Festival of Lessons and Carols service which will be held on December 22, 2013 at 4 PM. In the past, the Sitterson funds had been used for the Sitterson Recital Series which lacked success because it was promoted and held sometime in the spring when the date would ultimately clash with other recitals or events held in the area. Musicians often refer to the spring as “recital season.” In addition to avoiding conflicts during “recital season,” the new Festival of Lessons and Carols service is promoted to be a community event St. Mary’s. We are aiming to pattern the event after the famous King’s College Christmas Lessons and Carols service. The readings will be read by those from the community, not necessarily members or leaders of St. Mary’s. I am confident that the music program will continue to evolve in the coming year.

Respectfully submitted,  
Nick Voermans  
Organist and Choirmaster

## STEWARDSHIP COMMISSION

The stewardship committee has met several times this fall. The Every Member Canvass has received total pledges as of December 4th totaling \$229,731 for our 2014 budget. This represents 69 heads of household and / or individual pledges. These figures are a little behind where we were during last year’s canvas in late November and early December of 2012.

Our church still has no debt. We do still need to meet our pledge goal of \$397,000 as we did last year. Our updated St. Mary’s brochure along with a pledge form is still available to anyone still wanting to add their pledge for next year. Please contact Marylyn Wiggins in the church office or myself if you have any further questions.

Respectfully submitted,  
Scott Newton, Chair

## REPORT OF THE TREASURER

I am able to report to you St. Mary’s financial status as of October 31, 2013, our last statement.

**Budget:** Resulting from a successful 2012 Stewardship Campaign, St. Mary’s established an expense budget \$477K. \$437K of the budget is funded by pledges, non-pledge donations, school rent, and miscellaneous income. General fund carryover and St Mary’s Endowment Fund which many of you know as the William Hunter Trust Fund contribute the remaining \$40K.

**Income:** YTD we have received \$347K representing 79.45% of projected revenues of \$437K. This is in line with to 2012 at 81.28% during the same time period and past years. At this time, we anticipate collecting the remaining pledges necessary to meet budgeted expenses by year end.

**Expenses:** YTD we have spent \$377K representing 79.06% of our budget. As in past years, almost all expense items are within budget.

**Budget:** We are in the beginning stages of the 2014 budget year that will be similar to this year’s budget. At this time, we anticipate pledges to be flat or declining due to present economic conditions and the fact we do not

have a growing membership. Of long term concern continues to be that our investments are a necessary supplement to operations and outreach. In years that we use principal to meet budget which is the case when our investment earnings are below 6%, we will face the need for another endowment campaign to replenish liquidity which is challenging in these tough economic times.

Respectfully submitted,  
Stuart Lindley, Treasurer

Date : 11/18/2013  
Time : 3:40:13 PM

**St. Mary's Episcopal Church**  
**General Fund Summary for Annual Meeting**  
**General Fund and Fixed Assets**  
**January to October 2013**

Page : 1

Accounts	MTD Actual (This Year)	YTD Actual (This Year)	Annual Budget (This Year)	% of Annual Budget Used (This Year)	YTD Actual (Last Year)
<b>Revenues</b>					
Non-Pledge Donations	\$1,497.10	\$32,859.16	\$41,000.00	80.14 %	\$30,214.90
Pledge Payments	\$27,610.75	\$305,801.08	\$386,500.00	79.12 %	\$309,225.93
Miscellaneous Income	\$1,010.14	\$8,534.86	\$9,500.00	89.84 %	\$8,637.90
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>\$30,117.99</b>	<b>\$347,195.10</b>	<b>\$437,000.00</b>	<b>79.45 %</b>	<b>\$348,078.73</b>
<b>Expenses</b>					
<b>Personnel</b>					
<b>Clergy</b>					
Rector	\$7,057.26	\$72,272.36	\$87,509.00	82.59 %	\$68,424.22
Assistant Rector	\$3,975.42	\$42,927.37	\$51,905.00	82.70 %	\$40,759.52
Other Clergy Expense	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00 %	\$0.00
<b>Total Clergy</b>	<b>\$11,032.68</b>	<b>\$115,199.73</b>	<b>\$139,414.00</b>	<b>82.63 %</b>	<b>\$109,183.74</b>
Music Staff	\$2,803.34	\$28,218.40	\$34,240.00	82.41 %	\$27,433.40
Office Staff	\$4,362.31	\$42,558.79	\$52,314.00	81.35 %	\$41,170.26
Youth and Education	\$666.68	\$1,666.70	\$0.00	0.00 %	\$0.00
Matching FICA	\$599.15	\$5,516.24	\$6,512.00	84.71 %	\$5,208.06
<b>Total Personnel</b>	<b>\$19,464.16</b>	<b>\$193,159.86</b>	<b>\$232,480.00</b>	<b>83.09 %</b>	<b>\$182,995.46</b>
<b>Other Purposes Outside Parish</b>					
Diocesan Pledge	\$3,583.33	\$36,747.30	\$44,500.00	82.58 %	\$37,220.86
Outreach	\$200.00	\$2,000.00	\$2,400.00	83.33 %	\$2,000.00
<b>Total Other Purposes Outside Parish</b>	<b>\$3,783.33</b>	<b>\$38,747.30</b>	<b>\$46,900.00</b>	<b>82.62 %</b>	<b>\$39,220.86</b>
Clergy Pension Premiums	\$0.00	\$21,029.94	\$27,823.90	75.58 %	\$26,577.60
Other Ins. Premiums/Benefits	\$2,395.91	\$23,320.76	\$30,333.00	76.88 %	\$26,045.70
Office Expense	\$963.23	\$7,825.83	\$9,850.00	79.45 %	\$6,079.33
Music, Choir Supplies	\$400.00	\$4,397.23	\$6,500.00	67.65 %	\$2,793.12
<b>Church Operations</b>					
Utilities	\$2,063.70	\$24,212.68	\$32,000.00	75.66 %	\$24,694.63
<b>Maint. of Property and Equip.</b>					
Regular Maintenance	\$3,865.56	\$41,325.65	\$57,000.00	72.50 %	\$41,232.90
Capital Repair	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00 %	\$0.00
<b>Total Maint. of Property and Equip.</b>	<b>\$3,865.56</b>	<b>\$41,325.65</b>	<b>\$57,000.00</b>	<b>72.50 %</b>	<b>\$41,232.90</b>
Ministries	\$1,703.76	\$12,421.24	\$17,900.00	69.39 %	\$12,775.41
<b>Total Church Operations</b>	<b>\$7,633.02</b>	<b>\$77,959.57</b>	<b>\$106,900.00</b>	<b>72.93 %</b>	<b>\$78,702.94</b>
Other Expenses	\$301.54	\$10,724.74	\$16,300.00	65.80 %	\$9,973.02
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$34,941.19</b>	<b>\$377,165.23</b>	<b>\$477,086.90</b>	<b>79.06 %</b>	<b>\$372,388.03</b>
<b>Net Total</b>	<b>(\$4,823.20)</b>	<b>(\$29,970.13)</b>	<b>(\$40,086.90)</b>	<b>0.00 %</b>	<b>(\$24,309.30)</b>
<b>Transfers</b>					
<b>Total Transfers</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$22,684.93</b>	<b>\$40,086.90</b>	<b>56.59 %</b>	<b>\$24,052.07</b>
<b>Net Operating Total</b>	<b>(\$4,823.20)</b>	<b>(\$7,285.20)</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>0.00 %</b>	<b>(\$257.23)</b>

## WORSHIP COMMISSION REPORT

The Worship Commission of St. Mary's is built on a solid foundation of clergy staff and volunteers who are passionate and faithful in their dedication to our parish. Each service they perform is vital to the function of our church. We are thankful for all who share their gifts to the glory of God.

No service could be conducted without the "quiet" work of the Altar Guild volunteers lead by Emily Exum who has tirelessly organized this guild for more that 16 years. Thank you to all Altar Guild members who consistently change hangings, wash & iron linens, sweep, replenish and carefully maintain our Altars and Sacristies. Their "silent" worship is gratefully appreciated.

Worship services are also dependent upon the efforts of the Lay Eucharistic Ministers, Lectors and Ushers. They are always in attendance not only on Sundays, but also at all special church services. Often they are the first welcoming faces to our visitors and are necessary volunteers for our clergy. Worship services would not function successfully without their dedication. Acolyte training is seamless thanks to the allegiance of Stephen Hill, Acolyte Director. Many new acolytes have been trained this year and their interest is refreshing. A special thanks to Debbie Anderson who faithfully cares for the acolytes' vestments.

The musical worship at St. Mary's continues to expand its boundaries under the talented guidance of Nick Voermans, Organist and Director of Music. This year he has enhanced our worship experience by integrating visiting talents such as the Craven County Brass Quintet and the Bella Voce Children's Choir of Greenville. He continues to highlight and expand the talents of our very own Adult Choir volunteers. We are truly grateful for all of their on-going hard work, dedication and beautiful voices. Teresa & Rachel Singer as well as Susan Fox also faithfully lend their time to guide the "angelic" voices of St. Cecilia's Choir. These small people and their teachers certainly make a large impression. We extend an extraordinary thanks to you all who share your talents with us.

Most importantly, the Worship Commission wishes to extend our deepest appreciation for the faithful leadership of the Reverend A. Michael Singer and The Reverend Thomas P.H. Warren. Their heartfelt devotion and dedication, lends an honest warmth and deeply genuine experience to our worship services. Throughout the church year, they thoughtfully plan and organize events and special services to guide us all on our faithful journey with God. A portion of the 2013 special services are listed below. Please join me in thanking these two very sincere servants of God for their superb leadership.

Finally, thank you to all for your passion and devotion to each service you faithfully offer.

### January

24<sup>th</sup> annual Boar's Head Celebration, 2013 year long Bible Challenge

### February

Ash Wednesday Liturgy, The Way of the Cross, Holy Eucharist during Lent, Reconciliation of a Penitent

### March

Brass Quintet joined St. Mary's Choir during Lenten services

### April

Gordon St. Christian Church Handbells visit St. Mary's

### May

Mass on the Grass, A Taste of Hope, 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Prayer Breakfast, EYC Vespers

## June

Mid-day service at historic St. Barnabas Church, Snow Hill

## July

EYC Mission trip to Glory Ridge and the mission trip to Mosovi, Dominican Republic

## August

Back to School Bash at The Gate, The 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual St. Mary's Neighborhood Block Party

## September

Music of Taize, Altar Guild honored

## October

Children's Sabbath with Bella Voce Choir, Blessing of the Animals

## November

All Saints' Eucharist Sunday with the Craven County Brass Quintet, Compline Under the Stars, Evensong

## December

The Festival of Nine Lessons & Carols, EYC Vespers

Respectfully submitted,  
Anne Lindley  
Chair

## **ADULT CHRISTIAN FORMATION**

As noted from an issue of "The Bell Ringer": "The role of Christian Formation is to enable people to carry out their baptismal promise of lifelong spiritual formation into the image of Christ." Here at St. Mary's, we have had a variety of opportunities for Christian learning. During the past year we offered Wednesday Morning Men's Prayer Breakfast, the Bible Challenge Study Group, and Sunday School Classes, with additional offerings for learning throughout the year.

Adult Christian Formation for Sunday School has offered a variety of exciting and interesting topics during the past year. Presentations have been from Father Michael, various members of our congregation, and professionals in surrounding communities as well as our own.

January began with a topic presented by Greg Gridley, PhD, and Father Michael as they led the class on a topic "All Jazzed Up." It centered around coping when your brain is in overdrive and doing Centering Pray. Following were 3 sessions on "Fundamentalism" led by Derek F. Maher, PhD, who is the Director of Religious Studies at East Carolina University. Delegates to the Diocesan Convention presented a report from the Diocesan Convention. In preparation for Lent, Father Michael discussed the meaning of Lent including what it is and what it is not as well as spiritual practices to apply for Lent to be more meaningful. During the 5 Sundays of Lent, we discussed basic beliefs and understandings of the Episcopal Church. In May, Penn Perry, the Executive Director of Trinity Center, gave a presentation about the past, present, and future of Trinity, a conference and camp center for people of all ages. A Sunday School Picnic was held in May, as Sunday School ended for the upcoming Summer. Sunday School resumed in September with various topics presented. From October into November, we learned about several areas of human health. Kevin Steinweg, MD, Professor and Chair, Department of Family Medicine, Brody School of Medicine, East Carolina University gave a presentation on "aging." John John, MD, a local Internist and member of St. Mary's discussed maintaining good physical health. Angie Doncaster, a nutritionist discussed nutrition and how it

relates to our children as well as how it carries over to us as adults. Gregory C Gridley, PHD, a clinical psychologist and member of St. Mary's, discussed healthy relationships with all in light of the mental illness that we or others may have. In weeks following a celebration of Baptism, Father Michael led a discussion on "Maintaining Good Spiritual Health" and another one on "What Does It Mean to Serve the Church." Additionally, "Journey to Faith Classes have begun as a series of interactive sessions with Father Tom for member to explore the fundamentals of Christianity, Anglicanism, and the Episcopal Church. December began with our "Intergenerational Advent Wreath making.

There is much for us to learn about our Christianity and how it affects our life. Please join us as we are in this new year of the church. On December 15, we will reflect on the Christmas stories and see how they can change our lives and our world today.

Respectfully submitted,  
Cyndi Rafferty and Clifton Carey  
Co-Chairs

## **CHILDREN'S MINISTRY**

Since August 2013, several positive changes have been made in St. Mary's children's ministry program. Christian formation for children has been restructured and renamed as "Project FreeFALL." Each session of Project FreeFALL involves contemporary Christian music, an object lesson, small group Bible discovery, and a reinforcement activity which addresses the word through crafts, food, games and artistic expression. We have held multiple leader training meetings to meet the schedule needs of all volunteers. Supply boxes have been placed in each classroom, as well. Leaders are sent text message reminders the week before they are expected to serve. A website has been created as a home base for kids, parents, and new families wanting to learn more about our children's ministry. It is maintained on a weekly basis and provides a calendar, a photo slide show, and a kids page with printable funsheets and links to online Christian games and apps. The website also provides St. Mary's contact information as well as photos and brief biographies of all adult group leaders. The 2013-2014 children's chapel lessons have been prepared with an emphasis on understanding the adult church service, focusing on the jobs of church leaders, the significance of the *Book of Common Prayer*, and the seasons of the church year. Children follow an age-appropriate order of service that includes live music, a sermon, prayer, confession, and offering. Each child leaves with a "takeaway" item to reinforce the chapel lesson at home. An interactive Baptism celebration tradition has begun at St. Mary's church, involving handmade cards for Godparents and creation of a keepsake "Welcome to God's Family Tree" wall hanging for each Baptism.

Plans for the future include emphasizing publicity and growth of the program, composing a unified, positive behavior management plan, refreshing the "busy bags" in the narthex and displaying them in a way that makes them more visible to newcomers, and reviewing the use and effectiveness of the current curriculum materials. Exposing the children to liturgical dance, painting, drama, and various other forms of Christian expression remain goals as well. Overall, the focus of children's ministry is to bring the Biblical word to St. Mary's young people, to show them how to use that knowledge, and to reinforce the idea that, wherever we go, whatever we do, our faith is there.

Respectfully submitted,  
Shelly Yarbrough  
Director of Children's Ministry

## PASTORAL CARE

Pastoral Care has been an important aspect of the life of St. Mary's Parishioners and continues to be of great importance. Various members of the church have taken part in this special service to minister to members of our church.

Pastoral Care takes in many facets and during the past year, many things have taken place. Greeters have been at the church doors or in the Narthex each Sunday. Newcomers have been welcomed and offered support. Newcomers have been offered a Pamphlet with information concerning St. Mary's and shown around the church while being introduced to others at our church. Cherished Members have been remembered each month with a special luncheon provided by the ECW. In addition, those cherished members who have been unable to get out were remembered on special occasions including Easter, Christmas, and Birthdays, as well as at other times. There are persons who visit the sick or take items to the sick and as a result, the Prayer Shawl Ministry was started. Parish Services, made of 4 teams, have also included meals provided for families who have had a death. The Baptismal Ministry provided special offerings to those expecting a new child as well as a special Baptismal Towel at the Baptism of their child(ren). A Celebration of the Baptism has been given 4 times during the year based on the Church Calendar.

As you can see there are many parts of Pastoral Care, some of which may also be shared by other commissions of our church. Expectations are for these ministries to continue.

Respectfully submitted,  
Cyndi Rafferty and Joe Stark  
Co-Chairs

## OUTREACH COMMISSION

**“Not all of us can do great things. But we can do small things with great love.” Mother Teresa**

Change the world? Now that is a big thing. It is so BIG that one may think that it takes really BIG things to make it happen. However, it is really the sum of many "small things done with great LOVE" that creates this greater change. This year St. Mary's Outreach has shared great love through many small things in the hope of sharing God's love.

Some of us bought a *small* \$12 malaria net as a Christmas gift last year which resulted in saving 3 *big* lives.

Some of us baked a few *small* batches of cookies for a Cookie Walk to create the *big* opportunity of sending numerous children to school in the Dominican Republic and helping local children at Northwest School.

Some of us shared a *few* shoes out our closets for Soles4Souls with *big* results of 1289 people in world having something to protect their feet.

Some of us shared a *small* 30 minutes a week reading to child through our Hand in Hand partnership at Northwest School to see the *big* results of child excited about learning.

Some of us purchased *small* bags of pretzels and nabs and others gave their time to deliver them every 2 weeks to have the *big* result that no child goes hungry or without during snack time at Northwest School.

Some of us give a *small* part of every week to help cook and prepare a meal with the *big* result that the hungry in Kinston know they can depend on Mary's Kitchen for one warm meal a day.

Some of us bought a *small* purchase of pencils, glues sticks, and paper which brought *big* smiles to Northwest students who come to school empty handed on the first day of school.

Some of us bought *small* tickets to a Valentines dinner and a Taste of Hope food tasting to support the *big* work of St. Mary's mission teams to Glory Ridge and Dominican Republic.

Some of us made a *small* salad or baked a *small* cake for our 2nd annual Block Party which resulted in an evening of *big* fellowship and welcoming with local neighbors.

Some of us packed a *small* hotdog in a brown bag which resulted in a *big* lunch for 350 kids at our local faith-based community center called The Gate.

Thank you St. Mary's for all your support of outreach in 2013. Your individual *small* acts of kindness and generosity are making a *big* changes in the lives of others.

Respectfully submitted,  
Laury Sargeant, Chair

### **William Hunter Fund Outreach Disbursements for 2013**

\$3,000 Mary's Kitchen

\$1,000 Trinity Center

\$1,000 Trinity Center scholarships

\$1,000 Farmworker

\$1,000 Lenoir County Boys and Girls Club

\$ 1,000 Son Set Ministries--the Refuge

\$1,000 The Gate

\$1,000 Backpack Buddies

\$1,000 Hand in Hand

\$1,000 Common Ground

\$2,000 DR Scholarship (Mosovi specified)

\$1,000 Nets4Life