



May 2014

*St. Mary's Episcopal Church*

# The Bell Ringer

Online at [www.stmaryskinston.com](http://www.stmaryskinston.com)

## Mass on the Grass - May 18th

*O God, make clear to us each road.  
O God, make safe to us each step;  
When we stumble, hold us; when we fall, lift us up.  
When we are hard-pressed with evil,  
deliver us:  
and bring us at last to Your glory.*  
- - Ancient Celtic blessing

Celtic Christianity developed in Ireland after St. Patrick introduced Christianity there in 432. The Celts, a nature-loving people, preferred the oral tradition to the written and they delighted in stories that engaged their imaginations and their senses.

They embraced Christianity with its parables, stories, poetry, songs, visual symbols, and community. They considered nature and creation sacred and recognized as equal the gifts of women and men, whether lay or clerical.

The Celtic service is contemplative. Worshipers commune with God through prayers, poetry, litanies, scripture readings, music, and silence.

It is a service of the ancient church. Nothing 'new' - it is worship people practiced long ago. It is another kind of worship service for those who like prayer.

On **Sunday, May 18th**, we will hold a Celtic worship service outside, on the lawn next to the Chapel we are calling "Mass on the Grass." When you come to church that morning, bring a lawn

chair (we will have a few here available for your use) or bring a blanket and enjoy this ancient but modern worship.

At this service we will also be honoring our high school graduating seniors and recognizing all leaders of the Sunday School program year.



Make plans to join us for this special outdoor worship service. Dress casually and relaxed. Bring a neighbor or friend. There is room for everyone! Following the service we'll have a parish picnic. Hamburgers, hotdogs, drinks, and paper products will be provided. We ask you to please bring a (very) large dish to share!

In the event of rain, all of this will be held inside. Worship will be in the church and the picnic will be held in Moseley Hall.

## The Episcopal Church

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### In the Anglican Communion

A global community of 80 million Anglicans in 38 member provinces/churches.

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### In the United States

A community of 2 million members in 118 dioceses in the Americas and abroad.

Established in 1788.

Presiding Bishop

The Most Rev. Katharine Jefferts Schori

Episcopal Church Center

815 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue

New York, N.Y. 10017 212-716-6000

[www.dfms.org/](http://www.dfms.org/)

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### In the Diocese of East Carolina

A community of more than 15,000 communicants in 68 churches.

Founded in 1883.

Bishop

The Rt. Rev. Peter J. Lee

Bishop Provisional

Diocesan Office, 705 Doctors Dr.

P.O. Box 1336, Kinston, NC 28503

Tel: 252-522-0885

Fax: 252-523-5272

Website: [www.diocese-eastcarolina.org](http://www.diocese-eastcarolina.org)

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### St. Mary's Episcopal Church

A church of 408 baptized members whose mission is to worship and serve God joyfully, to nurture each other in faith and wholeness, to minister to others, and to manifest the "good news" of Christ.

800 Rountree Street

Kinston, NC 28501-3655

Tel: 252-523-6146

Fax: 252-523-5134

Website: [www.stmaryskinston.com](http://www.stmaryskinston.com)

Rector	The Rev'd A. Michael Singer
Assistant	The Rev'd Thomas P.H. Warren
Director of Music	Mr. Nick Voermans
Parish Administrator	Mrs. Marilyn R. Wiggins
Parish Secretary	Mrs. Linda M. Johnson
Sr. Warden	Mr. P. C. Barwick, Jr.
Jr. Warden	Mr. William L. (Bill) Connolly, III

## Up coming events

### Electing the 8th Bishop of East Carolina

On Saturday, May 17th, P.C. Barwick, Bob Nielsen, Holly Warren, Father Tom Warren and Father Michael Singer will travel to Christ Church, New Bern, to elect the next Bishop of the Diocese of East Carolina. Pray for the diocese and these delegates as they elect our next bishop.

### The John J. and Josephine M. Rowland Scholarship

Applications are now available. Please contact Marilyn Wiggins, Parish Administrator, for the John J. and Josephine M. Rowland Scholarship. The scholarship is awarded to a graduating high school senior(s) who is/are members of St. Mary's Church. **The scholarship is awarded on the basis of scholarship, ability, and need.**

**Applications must be returned to the Parish Office by 12:00 noon May 1, 2014. No applications will be accepted after this time.** The scholarships will be awarded in May.

## KINSTON - LENOIR COUNTY

### 10th Annual Kinston Lenoir County Prayer Breakfast

on the National Day of Prayer

Thursday, May 1, 2014 ~ 7:00 – 8:00 a.m.

The GATE of Lenoir County, 201 E. Gordon Street, Kinston

*This event is Co-sponsored by the Kinston-Lenoir County Chamber of Commerce and the Association of Congregations.*

Join the community as we pray for our city, state, country and schools

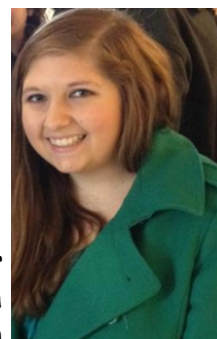
Tickets are \$10 each and may be purchased by calling the following:

Chamber of Commerce – 527-1131

The GATE 252-939-3223



Congratulations to Melissa Glen on her acceptance to the 2014 class of the Duke Youth Academy! DYA is a year-long program for high school students to experience an intensive encounter with Christian life including one week of residency at Duke University and ongoing theological engagement and practice. Melissa is a junior at Kinston High School and very active in parish and diocesan life.



## From the Rector - Father Michael

*A trip to the theater proves to be a surprising source of faithful inspiration.*

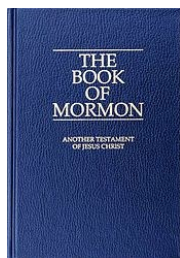
A few weeks ago, Teresa and I saw “The Book of Mormon” at the Durham Performing Arts Center. As expected, we both thoroughly enjoyed this irreverent—and, at times, admittedly obscene—of everything from religion to musical theater.

It wasn't until intermission that I noticed a the three-page advertisement the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints (LDS) had purchased in the Playbill. Three Mormon faces smiled out at audience members while the text invited, “You've seen the play. Now read the book,” and directed you to an LDS church website.

That bold move took my respect for the Mormon genius for evangelism to a new level. The LDS church didn't picket theaters to protest a play that must offend many—maybe all—of its members. Instead, they seized the opportunity to offer their sacred story to people who might otherwise receive only an outsiders' version written for Broadway.

The Playbill advertising campaign wasn't the first time I had encountered Mormons' generosity in spreading the word of God as they know it. A few years ago, intrigued by the presence of a few former Mormons in my community and wanting to know more about the beliefs they were leaving behind, I tried to buy the Book of Mormon. I soon discovered it wasn't for sale, but I could order a free copy at the LDS church web site.

A week after I placed the order, a pair of young missionaries dropped by my office to give me the book. When they asked about my interest in Mormonism, I replied that I was an Episcopal priest, secure in my faith and tradition, seeking to learn more about theirs. We talked for a little while and then parted ways, offering each other God's blessing. A few days later, I received a follow-up telephone call from another missionary, asking if I had had a chance to read the book, and if I had any questions. Our conversation, like my earlier talk with his colleagues, was brief and marked by mutual respect.



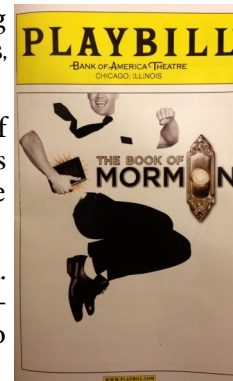
Today, I can't seem to find my copy of The Book of Mormon. It made no impact on my faith. But my encounter with those young missionaries did, and reading their church's ads in my Playbill deepened it. Mormon evangelism has made me wonder: what if the Episcopal Church offered the Book of Common Prayer (BCP), free of charge, to anyone who asked? Not just the version you can find at [bcponline.org](http://bcponline.org), but the beautiful, more user-friendly, paper or Kindle version currently sold on [Amazon.com](http://Amazon.com). What if Episcopalians carried copies of the BCP—bound or on flash drives—wherever we went, ready to pull them from our purses, briefcases, backpacks, or the glove compartments of our cars to share what they contain?

Just giving away the BCP wouldn't be enough. If we truly want to rise to the Mormon challenge, we would offer our book in a face-to-face meeting. That personal connection is the key to inviting our neighbors into our distinctively Anglican way of worshipping God and serving his people. Non-Mormons may laugh at seemingly arcane aspects of that faith, the parts “The Book of Mormon” mocks so cleverly. But from the outside, Episcopal worship, with our varying gestures and postures, our responses learned by heart, and our calendar of feasts and fasts, can appear just as closed. People hungry for what our church has to offer need guides into this unfamiliar territory. Are we prepared to accompany them?

That's where evangelism and formation come together. To invite others into the riches of our tradition, Episcopalians need, ourselves, to be familiar with the Book of Common Prayer. And we need to be able to speak genuinely and concisely about the difference our Anglican faith has made in our lives. We don't want to end up like “The Book of Mormon's” Elder Cunningham, who shamefacedly acknowledges, once he's out in the mission field, that he's never actually read his church's Scriptures.

Let's go out and speak to others! And let's be open to inspiration from any source about the ways we might proclaim, in word and deed, the Good News of God in Christ as our church has received it.

*The Rev. Rhonda M. Lee is the associate rector at St. Philip's, Durham. I thank her for use of a good portion of this article. To read this article in its original format, go to [www.dionc.org/dfc/newsdetail\\_2/3164003](http://www.dionc.org/dfc/newsdetail_2/3164003).*



# Worship

## Service at historic St. Barnabas Church

You are invited to historic St. Barnabas Episcopal Church, Snow Hill, to worship at a service from the 1928 Book of Common Prayer. The service will be held **Saturday, June 7th, at 10:00 a.m.** Father Michael Singer will officiate the communion service, and George Mewborn (Snow Hill) will play the organ. Stay for a covered-dish potluck lunch at Frank and Sandra Warren's home (106 W. Greene St.). Call 747-3529 for directions. Hope to see you there!

## Acolyte Training

Young people who will be entering the Sixth Grade in the fall and desire to serve as acolytes are asked to contact Linda Johnson, our Parish Secretary. New training sessions will be held in the near future. The training sessions will be led by Stephen Hill, St. Mary's Acolyte Master, and Father Tom and Father Michael. Those with questions should contact the clergy.

## Fellowship Commission to meet

The Fellowship Commission will meet on Wednesday May 7th at 5:30 p.m. in Moseley Hall. Dinner will be provided. Susan Fox, Bill Connolly and Scott Newton hope to see you. Be there and let's plan some fun!

## Music News

I would like to extend a thank you to all who made this academic year's music program a success. From those who are regular choir members to those who sing in the Boar's Head and Yule Log Festival. I especially thank the youth who participated in Christmas Lessons and Carols; the "Dry Bones" anthem and the Easter anthem. I would also like to thank those who monetarily support for our music ministry as well. Without help from everyone, we would not be able to provide an uplifting musical experience to worship. Again, I thank you and enjoy your summer!

-Nick Voermans, Director of Music

## Worship Commission

The Worship Commission will meet on Wednesday, May 14th, in Moseley Hall at 5:30 p.m.

Worship commissions help parish clergy carry out their liturgical duties on behalf of a local faith community. Whether formal or informal, a worship commission is responsible for helping create an environment that is conducive to prayer and religious experience, either in a sacred space or during a particular religious event. We're looking for individuals to serve on this commission.



We at St. Mary's want people who worship at either 8:00 and 10:00 on Sundays ... the young and those with a bit more experience to attend this meeting and provide their input so that we at St. Mary's may provide the best w o r s h i p experiences. We need your help by serving on this c o m m i s s i o n .

Dinner will be provided. In order that we know how many to welcome, please contact Linda Johnson in the Parish Office at [ljohnson@stmaryskinston.com](mailto:ljohnson@stmaryskinston.com), if you plan to attend. Anne Lindley and Ike Hines, commission co-chairs look forward to your attending.

## Shirts needed

At "Compline Under the Stars", in November, special t-shirts were handed out to ushers for use. Any usher still having his shirt is asked to return it to the Parish Office as soon as possible. Thank you!

## Memorial Day weekend

On this Memorial Day weekend (Sunday, May 25th) we will remember, by special prayers and with the laying of a wreath in St. Francis Garden, friends of St. Mary's that have died *while serving in the Armed Forces of our country*. If you have a loved one who died while serving in the military, please send that name to [ljohnson@stmaryskinston.com](mailto:ljohnson@stmaryskinston.com), Linda Johnson our Parish Secretary.

# Christian Formation

## ADULT CHRISTIAN FORMATION

**May 4 - "The election of the next Bishop for the Diocese of East Carolina"** - On this Sunday, St. Mary's delegates to the special convention of the Diocese of East Carolina on Saturday, May 17, 2014, at Christ Church, New Bern will lead the adult Sunday School class (P.C. Barwick, Bob Nielsen and Father Michael). In addition, Jo Parrott, Chair of the Transition Committee will be joining us.

By this time everyone in the diocese will have had an opportunity to attend one of the listening sessions and hear from the various nominees. You are invited to express your impressions of the nominees to the delegates. Father Tom and Holly Warren will not be with us this morning as they will be with St. Mary's youth at a weekend youth event. Please feel free to contact them and express your feelings on the various nominees. If you haven't had an opportunity, please review the information on the diocesan website: [www.diocese-eastcarolina.org](http://www.diocese-eastcarolina.org).

**Keep the faith . . .  
and share it too.**



## Save the Date For Vacation Bible School!!

**When: June 16-19, 9am-Noon**  
*\*Plus a special kick-off picnic on Sunday evening!\**

**Where: 1st Presbyterian Church**

Join us this summer for an amazing week of life-giving bible stories, upbeat music, earth-friendly crafts, fun games, yummy snacks, and hands-on service as we learn about God's good creation, how we are called to take care of it, and how God takes care of us.

*All children, ages 3 - completed 5th grade!*

*Youth & Adult volunteers are needed.*

*Visit [www.fpckinston.com](http://www.fpckinston.com) for more info!*

## "Reel Spirituality"

A Film Series to Promote Fellowship and Conversation @ St. Mary's

Over the coming months, Moseley Hall will host screenings of several movies of a wide variety followed by a brief discussion about the film. Enjoy a great movie, fresh popcorn, & fellowship!

Our first movie will continue the conversation that began at the last of our Lenten Program talks regarding how the church can "strive to safeguard the integrity of creation and sustain & renew the life of the earth." *Food, Inc.* is an Oscar-nominated documentary that examines corporate farming in this country.

Join us Monday, May 5 @ 6:00pm; Moseley Hall

We have chairs, but you're welcome to bring your own too!



**FOOD, INC.**

# Youth Community News

## Mark Your Calendars!!

Friday–Sunday, May 2–4

*Jr. & Sr. EYC Retreat to Finn's Island*

Sunday, May 11

*Jr. & Sr. EYC @ Church*

*Jr. EYC 5:45-7:00pm*

*Sr. EYC 6:30-8:00pm*

*Both groups eat together from 6:30-7:00pm*

Sunday, May 18; 2–4pm

*Local Mission Trip & Glory Ridge Team Meeting @ Common Ground Community Garden \*\* Required for all Glory Ridge Team Members*

The EYC Summer Kick-Off Party is being planned for a time TBD this month. Look for an email from Fr. Tom!

*Kan-Jam and maybe the return of our 50-ft Slip'N'Slide as well as other fun activities will be enjoyed. Supper will be pot-luck, but hot dogs will be provided on the grill.*

*Please come and bring a friend!!!!*

On April 6th, more than 60 people gathered for the EYC Vespers service. The youth led a compline service from the Prayer Book officiated by Wyatt Webster with an entertaining, honest, and faithful homily offered by William Archie on the parable of the wicked tenants from Luke 20:9-19. The "Campfire Compline" liturgy was followed by great fellowship and marshmallows - perfect ending to a brisk Spring evening!



## "Papa's Pecans"

Throughout Lent, many St. Mary's folks enjoyed toasted pecans at our fellowship suppers. Little did they know, that was marketing! These local, shelled, delicious pecans are now for sale for \$12 per pound with 100% of the proceeds going towards this summer's mission trip to Glory Ridge. Look for them after 10am liturgies this Spring until they're sold out!



Hand-picked in Maury, NC  
by Billy Carraway

TO GLORY RIDGE:  
**79 DAYS!!**

THANK YOU!!!!

Thank you so much to the wonderful adults of St. Mary's whose gifts of hospitality have allowed the EYC to enjoy food and fellowship together in April: Anne & Stuart Lindley, Jon & Laury Sargeant, and Sue & Jay Schaffer.



## Other News

### “Lemonade on the Lawn” begins in June



Light summer refreshments will be offered on Sundays this summer. Once again we will be offering a time of fellowship and refreshment following the 10:00 a.m. celebration of the Holy Eucharist. “Lemonade on the Lawn” will begin June 15 and end August 17.

Individuals or families can go together to host the refreshments. You are asked to provide lemonade and something to eat. A sign-up sheet may be found on the bulletin board in the Narthex. Paper products will be provided.

Jane Wynne is coordinating this ministry. Should you have any questions, please contact Jane at [janewynne@suddenlink.net](mailto:janewynne@suddenlink.net).



### St. Mary’s Nursery School has a new director

Earlier this year Ashley Price (*on the left*) became the new owner/director of St. Mary’s Nursery School. Whitney Grady (*on the right*) sold the nursery school to Ashley to devote more time writing and promoting her book. Whitney still teaches in the nursery school. Thank you Whitney for a job well done. Welcome aboard Ashley! This September marks the 40th anniversary of the founding of St. Mary’s Nursery School.

### Senior Sunday

Graduations are a special time. On May 18th, we will honor our graduating high school seniors at the 10am service.

In the June issue of *The Bell Ringer* we will list all graduates. If you or your child is graduating, please forward information to [ljohnson@stmaryskinston.com](mailto:ljohnson@stmaryskinston.com), Linda Johnson, our Parish Secretary at Thank you for your attention to this matter.

### Stop in and meet Linda!



St. Mary’s is happy to welcome Linda Johnson as our new Parish Secretary. Linda joined St. Mary’s staff in February. She retired from the State of North Carolina with 25 years service at Caswell Developmental Center in January 2013.

Linda and husband, Randy, have two children, Jennifer and Jamie, and 2 granddaughters. She enjoys spending time with family, preparing meals for family get-togethers, reading and spending time with her animals.

Linda and Randy are active members of 902 Church. Welcome Linda to St. Mary’s!

**Wednesday Night Dinners** - The Wednesday Night Dinners are over until the fall. Thank you to Sandra Warren and Kelli Stroud for organizing the meals and for those who have picked up dinners and helped wash dishes. Dinners return September 10th.

**St. Mary's Episcopal Church**  
**800 Rountree Street**  
**Kinston, NC 28501-3655**

## UTO Ingathering

The  
 s p r i n g  
 ingathering  
 of the  
 U n i t e d  
 T h a n k  
 O f f e r i n g  
 will take  
 place on  
 Sunday, May

11. An offering envelope is enclosed for your convenience.

Monies collected are used by the Episcopal Church Women for mission and ministry. A few churches in the Diocese of East Carolina have benefited from UTO grants in recent years. Please make your check payable to St. Mary's Church and in the memo portion of the check write "UTO". Thank you.

## Thank you!

A special thank you to the many people who contributed so much to make the liturgies of Lent, Holy Week and Easter so meaningful: a special thank you to members of the Altar Guild, our Choirs, Ushers, Lectors, Eucharistic Ministers and Acolytes. We so much appreciate your ministry at St. Mary's Church.

### SCHEDULE OF WORSHIP SERVICES

Sundays 8:00 a.m. – Holy Eucharist, Rite I  
 10:00 a.m. – Holy Eucharist, Rite II  
 11:15 a.m. – Sunday School

Tuesdays & Thursdays 8:30 a.m. - Morning Prayer

### ST. MARY'S VESTRY

2014	2015	2016
P. C. Barwick, Jr.	W. Scott Newton, II	Susan F. Fox
William (Bill) Connolly	Cyndi L. Rafferty	Stephen B. Hill
Anne B. Lindley	Joseph V. Stark	Isaac (Ike) C. Hines
John (Sandy) Shimer, Jr.	Stuart L. Stroud	Kevin M. Zoltek

Senior Warden – P. C. Barwick, Jr.

Junior Warden – William L. (Bill) Connolly, III

Clerk – Cyndi L. Rafferty

Treasurer – D. Stuart Lindley