** The Annunciation St. Mary’s Episcopal Church**

 **The Second Sunday of Easter April 3, 2016**

Nursery

We have nursery available for infants through 4 year olds during both the 9:00 and 11:00 services as well as during the 10:00 Education Hour. The nursery is located in the Preschool and Sunday School Building. Our nursery leader, Meg Zehmer, will be happy to help you get your child settled into the nursery.

**Worship bags**

We provide worship bags that contain a coloring page based on the Gospel reading of the day. It also has a wonderful parent-focused message on the back to help you talk about the day’s reading with your child. Worship bags are located in wood bins near the entrances to the church.

**Sermons available**

Find past sermons available in hard copy in the narthex of New St. Mary’s, or visit **stmarysgoochland.org/sermons** to hear audio and download print versions.

**Connect with us**

We would love to learn more about you! If you are a visitor, please pick up a **welcome packet** from one of our ushers.

***Do you receive email from us?*** *Sign up at* ***stmarysgoochland.org/communications*** *to receive St. Mary’s weather updates and news.*

**A Weekly Reflection**

And we are off! May the Spirit flow.

Last night (Thursday), the leaders of our five Discernment Committees (the “Steering Committee”) held an organizational “kick off” meeting led by Tim O’Shea to begin the process of listening, probing, asking and deciphering the question “What is God’s calling for St. Mary’s?” We are at a historical moment in the life of our Parish. After a tenure of almost four decades of dedicated service and spiritual leadership of our former Rector John Miller, we have this fresh opportunity to seek and reflect on our mission and various goals. To quote Tim, we will seek to answer “Who are we as a church?” and “How can we do things better that enable us to fulfill our mission?”

Our committee leaders are close to populating the various discernment groups: Worship, Spiritual Formation, Fellowship, Outreach and Stewardship. Over 50 members of our Parish community have graciously agreed to actively participate in one of the groups. The entire list will be published soon along with an initial calendar of meetings. Various forums will be available to provide opportunities for Parish wide input. We will also utilize the structure of normal church activities. We expect to provide continuing updates. Any parishioner should feel comfortable seeking out a committee member for discussion. The number one priority of our process is to assure that no interested voice goes unheard.

Over the next two months, each committee will undertake its work. Following which, the Steering Committee will meet to develop a report for the Vestry, to include a clarified set of priorities for the immediate future and to provide a basis for calling our permanent rector. We would expect certain topics will be suggested for continued reflection. The report will hopefully be typified as the “essence of the consensus.” Our goal is for this process is to be both contemplative and enthusiastic. We ask your continued prayers for the spiritual and intellectual curiosity to pursue our answer to “What is God’s calling for St. Mary’s”.

Al Rider

*Senior Warden*

***Would you like to write for us?*** *Contact Emily Rowell Brown at* **ebrown@stmarysgoochland.org** *to learn more.*

*See more at stmarysgoochland.org/events*

**Today’s Schedule**

**9 a.m.** Holy Eucharist: Rite One, *Little St. Mary’s*

**10 a.m.** Sunday School and Confirmation Class, *Sunday School and Education Buildings*

**10:10 a.m.** Adult Forum, *New Parish Hall*

**10:10 a.m.** *The Blessing of a Skinned Knee* Book Study, *Old Parish Hall*

**11 a.m.** Holy Eucharist: Rite Two, *New St. Mary’s*

**Welcome!** Whether it is your first Sunday at St. Mary’s, or your four hundred and first, we’re glad that you’re with us. Please feel free to introduce yourself to an usher or a clergy member and consider filling out an information form. We invite you to join us on future **Sundays** at 9 or 11 a.m. for Eucharist and Morning Prayer, on Wednesdays for **Noonday** or **Evening Prayer** at 12 p.m. and 5:45 p.m. in beautiful and quaint Little St. Mary’s, for a **class** or **Bible study**, or for many of our other **fellowship** and **outreach** offerings. **Little St. Mary’s** is also **open every day** between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. and available to you for prayer and reflection. See the back page to get a sense of what we have going on around St. Mary’s.

**Where is God Calling St. Mary’s?**

The Easter season is a natural time for reflection, introspection and clarification of St. Mary’s mission and purpose.  As announced in recent weeks, our Vestry selected this season as the right time to initiate **a** **period of prayerful discernment**, seeking to answer “What is God’s calling for St. Mary’s?” We’ve been lining up committee leaders and planning to gather extensive input from parishioners over the next two months.  Our hope is to clearly hear God’s voice, enabling us to reestablish the mission and short-term priorities of the church, and ultimately to provide the basis to consider and call our permanent rector.  On behalf of the Vestry, Tim O’Shea is organizing and leading the discernment process.  We plan to announce our **committees** and formally kick off **group discussions** in **early April**. Feel free to contact Tim at ***timoshea7@gmail.com*** for more information.

**Adults**

**Discerning our way forward.** Come hear more about the **parish-wide process of discerning God's calling for St. Mary's** today **at the Adult Forum at 10:10 a.m. in the New Parish Hall.** The areas of focus will be Spiritual Formation, Fellowship, Outreach, Stewardship, and Worship, and everyone will have a chance to participate.

**Inquiring minds want to know.** Join Interim Rector Weezie Blanchard and Associate Rector Emily Rowell Brown for a four-session **Inquirers Class** on the basics of Christianity and the richness of the Anglican tradition. The class will meet on **April 10, 17, 24,** and **May 1** following the **11 a.m. service**. Whether you desire to be confirmed in the Episcopal Church or are new to the Episcopal Church and just want to know more, this class is for you. Many long-time Episcopalians find it an interesting and helpful refresher course, as well. A light lunch will be provided, so **please RSVP** to Lori Smiley at ***lsmiley@stmarysgoochland.org***.

**Happy Friday!** Join the **Dover Parish Community Group** (formerly known as PAC) for a fun Friday night at the Lickinghole Creek Brewery on **April 8**. This group meets monthly and provides a great way to get plugged into the life of the parish, particularly for **20s, 30s, and 40s**. Invite a friend or bring your spouse and enjoy getting to know the St. Mary’s family better in a beautiful setting over a great beer. We will begin gathering at **5 p.m.**, but come when you can (the brewery closes at **9 p.m.**).  **Fresh oysters** will be available for sale, and we will provide light appetizers.

**Children, Youth, and Families**

**Especially for parents.** As Wendy Mogel says, **our children “are a precious loan, and each one has a unique path toward serving God.  Our job is to help them find out what it is.”**  Please join with other parents of St. Mary’s and Director of Children’s Ministries Amelia McDaniel on **Sundays in April** (April 3, 10, 17, and 24) at **10 a.m.** in the **Old Parish Hall** as we explore the common conundrum of how to parent.  Our guide will be Wendy Mogel’s book, ***The Blessing of the Skinned Knee***.  This is a short, concise and insightful book for parents. If you need copies of the book, we will have some on hand for $10.  For more information please contact Amelia McDaniel at ***amcdaniel@stmarysgoochland.org.***

**Especially for youth.** There is a lot going on for the youth at St. Mary’s! The **middle school youth group** meets the **2nd and 4th Sundays**, and **the 3rd Wednesday each month**. Our next event will be putt-putt on April 10. There are two weekend trips to Shrine Mont coming up: 6-7th grade students will be going April 15-17, and the 8th grade weekend is May 13-15. This summer, the youth will have the opportunity to participate in a local mission trip as well as Vacation Bible School and regular service project opportunities. For more information about any of this, please contact Matt Rawls at ***mrawls@stmarysgoochland.org***.

**Come to the Table! Vacation Bible School 2016** will be held on July 11-15, 2016 from 9 a.m.-12 p.m. Mark your calendars for a great week of fun and learning for St. Mary’s children ages 3 – 5th grade. We will be exploring **feeding stories** from Scripture and learning more about the **Eucharist**. Registration will be available soon. Interested in volunteering to help with the week? Please contact Amelia McDaniel at ***amcdaniel@stmarysgoochland.org.***

**Outreach**

**Buddy up.** We are excited to announce a new **volunteer opportunity**.  **St. Andrew's**, an **Episcopal school** in Oregon Hill that provides quality education to children from families with limited financial resources, is one of St. Mary's outreach grant recipients.  We are partnering to match interested St. Mary's parishioners with St. Andrew's students through St. Andrew's **Lunch Buddies** and **After School programs**.  If you are interested in spending an hour each week getting to know one of the wonderful children of St. Andrew's, or would like to know more, please contact Lori Smiley at ***lsmiley@stmarysgoochland.org***.

**Hunger hurts.** We will be collecting food to support Goochland’s Hunger Awareness Week (April 24-30, 2016). Our goal is to collect **30,000 pounds of food** which will help feed our neighbors in Goochland who are hungry. **Consider filling a bag** with canned items (meat, beans, vegetable, fruit, soup, peanut butter, and tomatoes) and dry goods (pasta, beans, rice, flour, baking mix, cereal, and toilet paper) and return it to the narthex of New St. Mary’s by **April 24**. Contact Pat Hughes at ***phughes316@gmail.com*** with questions.

**Worship**

**Where’s the confession?** **You may notice that this morning’s liturgies do not include a Confession of Sin, and in the Rite One version of the Holy Eucharist, the Prayer of Humble Access. During the Easter season, we especially rejoice and delight in God’s abundance. Consider the season’s brief reprieve from confession as an opportunity to recognize (in a new way) God’s grace!**

**St. Mary’s Episcopal School**

**Celebrate the arrival of spring with a carnival!** **Enjoy a fun afternoon of face painting, games, crafting, a bounce station, and a silent auction hosted by St. Mary's Episcopal School on Sunday, April 10 from 2-5 p.m. at St. Mary’s.** An **ice cream truck** will also be on site.  Cost is $5/person or $20/family.  What a wonderful way to ring in spring and support the preschool!

**This Week at St. Mary’s**

**Clergy, Staff, and Vestry**

**Melissa Alicea,** *Nursery Assistant*

**Gersain Agudelo**, *Assistant Sexton*

**Gina Alexander**, *Parish Administrator*

galexander@stmarysgoochland.org

**Adam Bailey**, *Children’s Choir Director*

**Louise Browner Blanchard***, Interim Rector*

wblanchard@stmarysgoochland.org

**Emily Rowell Brown**, *Associate Rector*

ebrown@stmarysgoochland.org

**Tammy Click,** *Accountant*

**W. Dwight Graham**, *Organist and Choirmaster*

**Robert G. Hetherington**, *Priest Associate*

**Amelia McDaniel**, *Director of Children’s Ministries*

amcdaniel@stmarysgoochland.org

**Paul Pace**, *Sexton*

**Matt Rawls**, *Director of Youth Ministries*

mrawls@stmarysgoochland.org

**Lori Smiley**, *Assistant to the Clergy*

lsmiley@stmarysgoochland.org

**Meg Zehmer***, Nursery Director*

**Susan Rawls***, Director of St. Mary’s Episcopal School*

**Vestry Members:**

**Al Rider**, *Senior Warden*

**Jane duFrane**, *Junior Warden*

**Bill Gooch**, *Treasurer*

**Charmaine Trice**, *Register*

**Scott Barton, Steve Guza, Brantley Holmes, Fay Lohr, Tracey Ragsdale, Betsy Rawles, Bruin Richardson, David Rose,** and **Tom Slater**

**Sunday, April 3, Second Sunday of Easter**

Holy Eucharist Rite One, 9 a.m., *Little St. Mary’s*

Sunday School and Confirmation Class, 10 a.m.,

*Sunday School and Education Buildings*

Adult Forum: Introduction to the Discernment Process,

10:10 a.m., *New Parish Hall*

*The Blessing of a Skinned Knee* Book Study, 10:10 a.m.

*Old Parish Hall*

Holy Eucharist Rite Two, 11 a.m., *New St. Mary’s*

**Monday, April 4**

Pastoral Care Team 1, 10 a.m., Old Parish Hall

Discernment Worship Focus Group, 5 p.m., Little St. Mary's

**Tuesday, April 5**

Staff meeting, 2 p.m., Old Parish Hall

**Wednesday, March 6**

[Bible Study](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001I_CnSRjrebn7p45m3pTzxnwXWTtnZoD8Coi4YVsxKhq8_Lko4-bBa26pBXE5asGbjTMFEfweXC5fT74ywceIKaphqxVKHByWQALQY0lXA5vTs0g2rF6WsTZGIiewP1F0ZG68gsCitNYlZekgHBw_etPoDNA5BOp_XOZMxpWe5S3_ruLcP6mKsLfDVQgBcxe0FjYS24AXIkhwmdGVQugNNPjxJaGqj09m&c=U0_cSAwZwYLtV-ZTRYkT86gapwVlddKsr3oiC1gBIjumUkntN4C_lA==&ch=jjgYemNP3rQH7DZhMOhxdqt7O5ciSIDNYiKH56XXCZWnD2AXh4iCnQ==), 10 a.m., Education Building Library

[Noonday Prayer](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001I_CnSRjrebn7p45m3pTzxnwXWTtnZoD8Coi4YVsxKhq8_Lko4-bBa26pBXE5asGbeAHvmqaIp64As4oU3VvS4vhfB5DNN6qZnA9WmKMYYqPcPxxJ2juhdyLG3nGcbvNGej4SIgNDcP7hFkKCFE_LGad9pueavY1vgAa1HOKjLSq5o7XOXXyWeWL-c-8KU8rIQczEES0YhZXcy4OCHu6kDK7XJZVVnPcd&c=U0_cSAwZwYLtV-ZTRYkT86gapwVlddKsr3oiC1gBIjumUkntN4C_lA==&ch=jjgYemNP3rQH7DZhMOhxdqt7O5ciSIDNYiKH56XXCZWnD2AXh4iCnQ==), 12 p.m.,Little St. Mary's
Children’s Choir Rehearsal, 5 p.m., Choir Suite

[Evening Prayer](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001I_CnSRjrebn7p45m3pTzxnwXWTtnZoD8Coi4YVsxKhq8_Lko4-bBa0yK8bF3SXbkSqtYKOem-PAPvE4oAuxA4inwZxMRGoPFRjmRYxkJf9NNSgQmwYa5p49Sp84WQPUaJZBAv-eQzMVDeUPwMS1aX6OwsyoUnWtOVYHI-zp-CsO3gg0n35J5a3Ff9gymuAkOK3Pmkkn-4SzKd2-W5fC35NvqdXVx0xTC&c=U0_cSAwZwYLtV-ZTRYkT86gapwVlddKsr3oiC1gBIjumUkntN4C_lA==&ch=jjgYemNP3rQH7DZhMOhxdqt7O5ciSIDNYiKH56XXCZWnD2AXh4iCnQ==), 5:45 p.m.,Little St. Mary's

**Friday, April 8**

Lickinghole Creek Brewery Gathering, 5-9 p.m. at Lickinghole Creek Brewery

**Saturday, April 9**

A.A., 10 a.m., Education Building Classroom

**Sunday, April 10, Third Sunday of Easter**

Holy Eucharist Rite One, 9 a.m., *New St. Mary’s*

Parish Breakfast, 9:30-10:15 a.m., *New Parish Hall*

Sunday School, 10 a.m., *Sunday School Building (age 3-grade 2) and Education Building (grades 3-8)*

Adult Forum, 10:10 a.m., *New Parish Hall*

*Blessing of a Skinned Knee* Book Study, 10:10 a.m., *Old Parish Hall*

Holy Eucharist Rite Two, 11 a.m., *New St. Mary’s*

Inquirers Class begins, 12:15 p.m., *Old Parish Hall*

St. Mary’s School Carnival, 2-5 p.m., *New St. Mary’s*

**Coming Up**

**Friday, April 15 – Sunday, April 17**

6th and 7th grade Weekend at Shrine Mont

**Wednesday, April 20**

Parish Supper, 5:30-6:45 p.m., *New Parish Hall*

**Coming Soon**

**Sunday, April 24, Fifth Sunday of Easter**

Choral Evensong, 5:30 p.m., *New St. Mary’s*

*See more at stmarysgoochland.org/events*

**Sunday, May 1, Sixth Sunday of Easter**

Children and Youth Sunday, Holy Eucharist Rite Two, 11 a.m., *New St. Mary’s*

**Sunday, May 15, Day of Pentecost**

Holy Baptism and Holy Eucharist Rite Two, 11 a.m., *New St. Mary’s*

Pentecost Picnic, 12:15 p.m., *New Parish Hall and Terrace*

**Sunday, May 22, Trinity Sunday,** **Bishop’s Visitation**

Holy Baptism and Holy Eucharist Rite Two, 9 a.m., *Little St. Mary’s*

Confirmation and Holy Eucharist Rite Two, 11 a.m., *New St. Mary’s*

Bishop’s Reception, 12:15 p.m., *New Parish Hall and Terrace*