

THE ANNUNCIATION

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Deacon Associate Harrison Higgins received a blessing on his last day.



In October Linda Rose, John Hyslop, and I went on a St. Mary's-supported "vision" trip to eight mission

sites in the three countries of Kenya, Rwanda, and Uganda. Our leader was Celeste Bundy, executive director of our outreach partner, Education Equals Hope. We called it a vision trip because we visited and saw each site rather than focusing on service in one or two. Our goal was to see what might be done and envision subsequent mission trips.

The theme of my reflection echoes last Sunday's sermon by Harrison Higgins based on the gospel of John 1:43-51, when Phillip recruited

Nathaniel to follow Jesus, with the words "Come and see." Let me share some of what we saw on this vision trip:

We are used to six-lane interstates of automobiles traveling at 70 mph. We saw two-lane roads shared by walkers, motor bikes, cattle, sheep, and herdsman leading their stock to the nearest water source.

We saw a countryside in Rwanda that was lush. In Kenya and Uganda, it was more of an orange-brown dirt. Animals like hippos filled edges along the Nile River. With the addition of the expansive landscape of the safari-like ranges, we truly did

Weekly reflection continues...

Welcome!

Welcome to St. Mary's Episcopal Church - we are so glad that you are here! Since the 1870s, God has gathered a beloved community of Jesus to worship and serve here, where all are welcomed. We are committed to provide a holy place for worship, Christian Formation for all ages that is compelling and life-giving, opportunities to reach out in love for those in need, and an enthusiastic hope that all who call St. Mary's their spiritual home can participate in every area of our common life in Christ. The spirit of St. Mary's is grounded in a deep sense of gratitude for God's goodness and love. We give thanks for you and for your life, and we are grateful to God for the opportunity to welcome you!

TODAY'S SCHEDULE

9 a.m. Holy Eucharist in Little St. Mary's

10 a.m. Sunday School in the Block Room

10 a.m. Adult Forum in the Parish Hall

11 a.m. Holy Eucharist in New St. Mary's

12 p.m. Cookies and coffee in the Parish Hall

2:30 p.m. Confirmation Session III in the Education Building

have the joy of seeing the beauty of God's Kingdom in Africa.

Were we there to share the Word of God? I went thinking so, but truly discovered that was not so much the case. We saw a widespread awareness and belief in God and His Kingdom in each mission site. During a home visit, I recall being so impressed with an art piece on the wall that read: NAKUSHUKURO MUNGU KYA YOTE ULIONITENDEA which translates from Swahili to I THANK YOU GOD FOR ALL THAT YOU DO FOR ME

At every mission site we saw the children sing, dance, and recite poetry for us. Our ah-ha was in learning that one of our best gifts to them was to honor, respect, and enjoy their gifts to us in their presentations. I learned how important it was to them that we graciously acknowledge their music as true expressions of God's love. These were gifts that each of us will long remember and cherish.

We saw people collecting unclean water from streams and carrying it home on their heads. Clean water is perhaps their number-one health need. We went with the belief we might make a small difference by bringing water filters to those communities struggling with the ill effects of unclean water. We were totally on target with this mission element of our trip. People stood in line for the filters and were overjoyed by the distribution.

So, what's next? David, and our Outreach Committee, have been wonderful in encouraging us to answer this question. We know that St. Mary's has a call to do good things in the world. Our links to these three countries make the decision easy. We look forward to sharing and showing more of this story with you at the Adult Forum this Sunday, and continuing the discussion of how we can continue to do good work in the world. "Come and see."

Wayne Dementi



Ministry Highlight

Our music ministry brings special services to New St. Mary's throughout the year. On Sunday, February 11, at 4:30 p.m., the St. Mary's Choir will offer a service of Choral Evensong for the Season of Epiphany, featuring Sarah MacDonell's Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in A-flat Major, Jonathan Dove's stunning "Seek Him That Maketh the Seven Stars" and music of Margaret Burk, Herbert Howells, Thomas Tallis, and Louis Vierne. The service will last approximately 45 minutes, and a light reception will follow for those not rushing off to a Super Bowl party!



Outreach Opportunity

St. Mary's will prepare and deliver dinner for 75 residents at the CARITAS Women's Healing Place on Friday, Feb. 9. We need volunteers on Thursday, Feb. 8, and Friday, Feb. 9. Please visit the Sign-Up Genius linked at the QR code below and find a time to help! Contact Jane Marlatt at 443-812-9136 with any questions.



LENTEN LEARNING & SUPPERS

with Dr. Melissa Jackson

WHAT DOES GOD MEAN BY JUSTICE?

Wednesdays
February 21 & 28, March 6 & 13
5:30-7 p.m.
in the Parish Hall



ADULT FORUM TODAY: AFRICA VISIONING
Sunday, Jan. 21, 10 a.m. in the Parish Hall

Join St. Mary's missionaries Wayne Dementi, John Hyslop, and Linda Rose at 10 a.m. in the parish hall for an overview of the people they met and experiences they had with Education Equals Hope (E=H) and a vision team of 10 others in East Africa in October. Learn more about E=H in Africa and the water-filter project H2O (Hope 2 Others).

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING NEXT SUNDAY
Sunday, Jan. 28, 10 a.m. in New St. Mary's

Please save the date and plan to attend our annual parish meeting at 10 a.m. on Sunday, Jan. 28, in New St. Mary's. Hear all about our successes of 2023 and meet the new slate of vestrypersons who have been called to serve our parish -- we need your vote to confirm their approval. There will be nursery and Sunday School for the children at that time. Do come!

FOOD DRIVE UNDER WAY

St. Mary's Outreach is collecting food items for two of our outreach partners: the Goochland YMCA needs snacks for their afterschool programs and the Woodman West food pantry needs food basics for their clients. Please drop off any items in the cart in the church office by Sunday, Feb. 9.

For the Goochland YMCA
Bagged single-serving chips
Non-refrigerated cheese & pepperoni sticks
Extra-cheddar Goldfish
Individual fruit snacks
Fruit roll-ups
Granola bars (with and without nuts)
Cereal (individual boxes/bags)

For Woodman West
(please no Costco-sized items)
Flour: 4-5 lb. bags
Sugar: 4-5 lb. bags
Vegetable oil (32-48 oz.)
Garbanzo beans
Tomato paste
White rice
Pasta of any kind

SUNDAYS AT ST. MARY'S

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

9 a.m. Holy Eucharist in Little St. Mary's
10 a.m. Sunday School & Adult Forum
11 a.m. Holy Eucharist or Morning Prayer in New St. Mary's*

*We have first, third, and fifth Sunday Holy Eucharist at both services. Second and fourth Sundays will have Morning Prayer, except during Advent, Lent, and Easter.

NURSERY

Nursery is offered for infants to four-year-olds every Sunday from 8:45 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. As a part of nursery time, the toddlers will hear a Bible story, sing, and play games.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sunday School is offered for four-year-olds to 5th graders at 10 a.m. Each week the children learn the stories of the Bible through singing and storytelling. Sunday School for 6th-12th graders meets in the youth lounge at 10 a.m.

ADULT FORUM

Adult Forum gathers on Sundays in the Parish Hall during the 10 o'clock hour. All adults are welcome!

CHILDREN'S CHAPEL

During the 11 a.m. service, children (age four to 5th grade) are invited to come forward during the Gospel hymn and go to the Block Room together. There, they hear the Gospel story, talk about it, and sing together. They return to the service during the passing of the peace.

OCCURRING WEEKLY

MEN'S SPIRITUAL PRACTICE

Tuesdays at 8 a.m. via Zoom

LECTIONARY BIBLE STUDY

Wednesdays at 10 a.m. in the Library and via Zoom

HOLY EUCHARIST WITH PRAYERS FOR HEALING

Wednesdays at 12 p.m. in Little St. Mary's

CENTERING PRAYER

Thursdays at 11 a.m. in the Narthex

NEW BEGINNINGS

Saturdays at 10 a.m. in the Education Building (open A.A. meeting)

*Events are subject to change. Please visit www.stmarysgoochland.org for updates.

Sunday, January 28

OUT(IN)DOOR WORSHIP

& 2ND ANNUAL CHILI COOK OFF

5 p.m. Worship followed by Potluck Supper



Use the QR code to sign up to bring chili or a side to share

Do you receive email from us?
Visit stmarysgoochland.org/communications to sign up for weekly updates and news from us.

The Third Sunday after the Epiphany | January 21, 2024 | The Annunciation





This Week at St. Mary's

Sunday, January 21

Holy Eucharist, 9 a.m., *Little St. Mary's*
 Sunday School, 10 a.m., *Block Room*
 Adult Forum, 10 a.m., *Parish Hall*
 Holy Eucharist, 11 a.m., *New St. Mary's*
 Cookies and coffee, 12 p.m., *Parish Hall*
 Confirmation Session III, 2:30 p.m., *Education Building*

Monday, January 22

Pastoral Care Team #4, 9 a.m., *Library*

Tuesday, January 23

Men's Spiritual Practice, 8 a.m., *via Zoom*
 Staff meeting, 10 a.m., *Church Office*
 Book Group, 1:30 p.m., *Parish Hall*
 Vestry meeting, 5 p.m., *Parish Hall*

Wednesday, January 24

Lectionary Bible Study, 10 a.m., *Library*
 Holy Eucharist with Prayers for Healing,
 12 p.m., *Little St. Mary's*
 Parents' Brown-Bag Book Group, 12 p.m.,
Library

Thursday, January 25

Centering Prayer, 11 a.m., *Narthex*
 Sacred Ground, 5:30 p.m., *Education Building*
 Choir rehearsal, 7:30 p.m., *Choir Suite*

Friday, January 26

Book Group, 10:30 a.m., *Library*

Saturday, January 20

New Beginnings AA, 8:30 a.m., *Education Building*

Sunday, January 28

Holy Eucharist, 9 a.m., *Little St. Mary's*
 Annual Parish Meeting, 10 a.m., *New St. Mary's*
 Sunday School, 10 a.m., *Education Building*
 Morning Prayer 11 a.m., *New St. Mary's*
 Cookies and coffee, 12 p.m., *Parish Hall*
 Worship & Chili cook-off, 5 p.m., *New St. Mary's & Parish Hall*



Contact Us

New Here? Be sure to fill out a welcome card located in the pews and in the narthex. Place it in the offering plate or bring it to an usher or clergy to learn more about the life and ministry of St. Mary's.

Need to Reach Someone? Please call the Church Office at (804) 784-5678. Or visit www.stmarysgoochland.org/staff to find contact information.

A PART OF OUR STORY...



Our first
parish
supper of
2024!



NEW TO ST. MARY'S?



We're so glad you're here!
Scan the code or visit stmarysgoochland.org/welcome
 to let us know you're here and help us stay in touch!



facebook.com/St.MarysGoochland



[@StMarysGoochland](https://www.instagram.com/StMarysGoochland)



Online Offering
 Scan QR code to
 make an online offering.

CLERGY AND STAFF

Lauren Clay, *Office Administrator*
 David H. May, *Rector*
 Amelia McDaniel, *Lay Associate for Christian Formation*
 The Rev. John E. Miller, Ph.D., *Rector Emeritus*
 Paul Pace, *Sexton*

Kilpy Singer, *Associate Rector*
 Elizabeth Starling, *Executive Director, Church Operations*
 Ryan Tibbetts, *Director of Music*
 Maggi Tinsley, *Director of Communications*
 Jacob Warren, *Director of Youth Ministries*
 Tyrell Wilkins, *Assistant Sexton*

VESTRY

Ashley Barlow, *Sr. Warden*; Jeff Allende, Jr. *Warden*; Joe Cheely, *Treasurer*; Bill Gooch, *Register*;
 Sam Bruce, Ros Bowers, Owen Conway, Henly Deutsch, Linda Hyslop, Jesse McCoy, Sandy McDonald,
 Geoff Simril, Celeste Stallings, and Barbara Tavenner.



ST. MARY'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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