

The Voice of **St. Margaret's**

The Official Newsletter of St. Margaret's Episcopal Church

April-May-June 2023

Mission Statement

The Mission of St. Margaret's Episcopal Church is
To worship, to serve, and to form the spiritual growth
Of individuals according to the teachings of Jesus Christ.



THE RECTOR'S DESK

THE RECTOR'S DESK

GIVE YOUR BURDENS TO THE LORD

What burdens are you carrying? Can you drop them for a moment? Can you place them at Jesus' feet? I believe in life we have many things that weigh us down and more times than not, they are things that we can easily let go of, but we tend to hold on to them with dear life, weighing ourselves down so much that moving forward is non-existent and almost unachievable in our minds. You see, we go through our lives and seem to collect all sorts of things that weigh us down. For many of us, the things we pack into our lives can get heavy. One thing I believe we carry around with us that weighs us down is Bitterness. Let's be honest: sometimes people hurt us. We get put down, run down, and trampled on. And it becomes easy to want to get revenge. And it's even easier to become bitter. But bitterness is a disease. And if we're not careful, this disease of bitterness will creep into our hearts and ruin our lives.

Someone said, "The more I get to know the human race, the more I love my dog." Dogs are loyal, dependable, eager to please, and quick to forgive and forget. Don't you wish people were more like that? But sometimes no matter how hard we try to have a good relationship with someone, it doesn't work. You know what? People are going to hurt you.

Service Schedule

Sundays
8:am
Holy Eucharist Rite I
(No Music)
On Hold for Now

9:30am
Holy Eucharist Rite II
(With Music)

Wednesday 6:30pm
Bible Study
Via Zoom

CONT.

And when people hurt us, we can respond one of two ways:

1. Get bitter. 2. Get better.

How do you Keep Bitterness from Ruining Your Life? Bitterness doesn't have to control you. The remedy is a counter-cultural command that raises us to a new level of living. Bless those who hurt you. Romans 12:14 "Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse." The first thing you can do to keep bitterness from ruining your life is bless those who hurt you.

Now, of course, there are Christians who suffered severe persecution that we can't even imagine going through ourselves. But the same principle applies for us when people hurt us. Never stop praying for them. Jesus told us to pray for our enemies. Why? Because it's hard to hate somebody and be nasty towards somebody you are praying for. And Jesus never said, "Pray ABOUT your enemies." If I pray ABOUT my enemies, I'll probably end up complaining about them... Or worse, I'll pray for God to destroy them. But Jesus said, "Pray for your enemies" It's very hard to pray for people who you dislike.

You see - when you do this kind of prayer to God - when you pray for your enemies - it changes your heart. It frees you up from the bondage of your anger. And it frees you to serve God in a way that really honors Him. Never stop forgiving them. This is hard, but Christ followers are called to something higher. Disciples of Jesus are to live at a higher standard than the rest of the world. Forgiveness is very, very hard for humans to do on their own. There are reasons not to forgive. To forgive means to absorb the pain of an offense. It means taking that pain which is insulated a little by the anger and bitterness that the pain caused, and acquitting the offense that is the cause of the pain, exposing it to the light of grace. Unmerited, perhaps undeserved, favor.

There is a lot of mental and emotional work involved in forgiving someone. If you've ever tried to forgive someone a very real

CONT.

offense, you know what I'm talking about. There is a serious price to pay when the choice is made to forgive a person. Sometimes we can get use to being angry at a person or at people.

That anger focuses us like nothing else in life, or so we think. We feed off that anger. So, to forgive, to release that anger, really changes something very familiar in our life. Without that anger to focus on, we may not know what to do with ourselves. To forgive means to say, "What you have said or done has truly and deeply hurt me, yet though I feel the pain of what you have done, I choose to release you of penalty. You have earned and you deserve my anger but instead I release you from your guilt". That is the problem of forgiveness, and that is why many do not want to go there. The cost. The cost is too high. But you know what? I truly believe forgiveness is essential to being a genuine follower of Jesus. And it's just as essential in building of a community of faith. It is not optional; it is not an add-on that I can ignore if it suits me.

Never seek revenge. For the Christian, there are problems with trying to "get back" at someone. We lower ourselves to the level of the person who irritates us. This makes us vulnerable because we violate the principles of faith and love. Revenge appeals to our lower instincts. Go the extra mile to love your enemies and give them nothing but undeserved kindness. Now let's be honest. That's just not natural. To give nothing but kindness to someone who has hurt you goes against our human nature. But going against our human nature usually means that we're being more like Jesus. And being like Jesus with our enemies, by going the extra mile to love them, will have more effect on them than any revenge we could have sought to take out on. Place your burden of Bitterness at Jesus' feet today and he will refresh you.

The Rev. Dr. Benjamin E.K. Speare-Hardy II, Rector

Who's Who...

Spiritual Advisor

Rev. Dr. Fr Benjamin Speare-Hardy II
Rector
937-837-7741, Ext 102
Email:
bspearehardy@smecdayton.org

Associate Priest

The Rev. George Kamani
937-708-6129
Email: georgekmm@yahoo.com

Staff

Office Hours:
10:00am-2:00pm Mon-Fri

937-837-7741; Fax: 937-306-6081

E-Mail: office@smecdayton.org

Web: www.stmargaretsdayton.org

Parrish Administrator & Assistant to the Rector

Barbara Bass
937- 837-7741, Ext 101
E-Mail bbass@smecdayton.org

Treasurer

Joyce Stone
937-837-7741 Ext103
E-mail jstone@smecdayton.org

Director of Music/Pianist

Robert F. Stockton III

Ready for Work, Lead Trainer

Sharon King-Roberts

Volunteer Receptionist

*Thora Holder, Barbara Scott,
Nancy Butler*

St. Margaret's Episcopal Church
5301 Free Pike
Trotwood, Ohio 45426

Vestry

Barbara Hudson Banner, Sr Warden
James Bolden, Junior Warden



James Bolden, Asst. Treasurer
Beatrice Ramsey, Asst.
Treasurer
Barbara Bass, Clerk of the Vestry
Nancy Butler
Thora Holder
Ellen McDaniel
Brenda Cochran
Monty Reece

Sunday School Superintendent

Brenda Wise

Regular Contributors to the Voice
Fr. Benjamin Speare-Hardy II
Brenda Cochran, Judy Wilson

Web Master: Barbara Hudson
Banner, Beatrice Ramsey
The Voice Editor: Phyllis Brunson
The Voice is Published Quarterly
Deadline: 18th of month
Please e-mail all articles to:
phyllisbrunson1042@att.net

Sound/Livestream Technicians
Michael Thompson, Virgel Oatts
**Facebook Adm & Tech Dir of
Stream**
Maechelle Thompson



Birthdays

April

**1 Brenda Cochran
14 Patricia Simpson
16 Sharon King Roberts
18 Anita Smith
22 Barbara Bass
29 Arlana Daniel Smith**

May

**3 Nancy Butler
3 Jillian Grant
4 Ruth Tillman
5 Doloris Walker
9 Deacon Jeanie Manning
22 Angelita Jones
30 Agnes George
31 Fr. Ben Speare-Hardy**

June

**7 Frances McGee Cromartie
9 Willa Smith
13 Elizabeth Clark
15 Patrice King Roberts
17 Harry Wise
23 Lynne' King Roberts
23 Anne Burns
25 Beatrice Ramsey
30 Robert Bass**

Anniversaries

May

13 Robert and Barbara Bass

Brotherhood

Brotherhood Fish Fry and ECW Bake Sale the first Friday of the month 2023, 11:00am -6:00pm. Your continued support is appreciated throughout the year. Come on out for the best fish in town and most delicious baked goods, and of course the great fellowship enjoyed by all who attend. Looking forward to seeing you on those first Fridays. The Brother's Breakfast meeting is held every second Sunday of the month after the 9:30am service. All men of the church are welcome to Join the Brotherhood.

ECW meetings are held on the second Sunday of every month after the 9:30am service, all women of the church are invited to attend, yearly dues is \$10.00. We are now making plans for our upcoming annual Women's Day Weekend to be held on Saturday, May 20 luncheon, \$35. and Sunday May 21 church service. Rev. Vanessa Ward is guest speaker. All women of the church are welcome to join the ECW.

In Memory of our Loved Ones



Something to Consider:

“Keep Your Mind on the Objective Not the Obstacle”

This quote by William Randolph Hearst is one that is most essential in our lives today. Most importantly due to the challenges, disappointments, people, organizations, companies, and others. Keeping the objectives have nearly become almost impossible because the obstacles faced today cannot be compared to others faced in previous years,

In the past, these same important examples have endured countless experiences and challenges, but the obstacles faced were small in comparison to the ones that are faced by thousands now. The objectives, too are plentiful, but insurmountable of the obstacles faced at the present time.

There are many types of obstacles that can always hinder an individual achieving any type of goal. A major primary one is lacking the confidence. This can kill how your goals or the objectives are progressing. Another obstacle is past failures that one has experienced which makes many feel discouraged and also unmotivated. This stems from the notion that failure is a completely negative experience and further a waste of time, but basically failure is a good message

Cont'

that can be received on the path to achievement and development.

Certain meaningful goals whether personal or professional are all an important part of being able to take an active role in your own life. If you are not doing this, you are simply floating along and you don't have a course toward growth.

Even though we set many goals and/or objectives and we are passionate about them, we may even have plans, but most of us would like to believe that there are means of how to achieve these goals. There are also many hurdles that will occur along the way. Remember that many of us have chosen the path that is a challenge for us, but eventually we are all bound to come across obstacles that will stand in the way of our progress.

It is not the obstacles themselves that determine our ability to succeed, but rather how we choose to respond to them.

The following are the most common obstacles and how to avoid them:

- 1) Putting your goals off for another day**
- 2) Waiting to take action until you feel ready**
- 3) Not anticipating those tough times**
- 4) Feeling mistakes as failure**
- 5) Not making your goal a priority**
- 6) Under estimating how difficult it will be**
- 7) Giving up before you see the results.**

Here are particular things that prevent you from achieving your goals:

- +Looking for perfection**
- +Excuses**
- + Procrastination**

CONT'

+ Distractions

+ Lack of consistency

Quotations about Keeping our Eyes on the Objectives – Not the Obstacles.

“The greater the obstacle, the more glory in overcoming it”

“Being challenged in life is inevitable”

“Being defeated is optional”

“Obstacles don’t have to stop you. If you run into a wall, don’t turn around

and give up. Figure out how to climb it, go through it, or work around it.”

Submitted By: Ms. Brenda Cochran



The Rev. Abeoseh "Abby" Flemister Honored with Diocese of Liberia Award February 21, 2023



The Rt. Rev. Dr. James B. Sellee, bishop of the Episcopal Church of Liberia, has invited the Rev. Abeoseh "Abby" Flemister to receive the Rev. E. Bolling Robertson Award for distinguished service to that diocese. The award, named for an Episcopal priest who served as a missionary in Liberia from 1945 to 1984, recognizes Flemister's "invaluable contributions to the Church and humanity over the years." It will be bestowed on March 5 at the closing service of the 87th Diocesan Convention of the Episcopal Church of Liberia at Cuttington University.

CONT'

Flemister, who has been licensed to officiate in the Diocese of Southern Ohio since retiring to Columbus in 2004, is a priest of the Episcopal Church of Liberia. She and her husband, Clifton, are members of St. Matthew's, Westerville, where she serves as director of Partners in Ministry in Liberia (PIMIL), a program established in 2005 to educate children in the wake of civil war that ravaged Liberia from 1989 to 2003.

"The history of PIMIL is an amazing manifestation of Mother Abby's lifelong commitment to The Church of Liberia and to honoring those who lost their lives during the civil unrest," Harold Patrick, former PIMIL board chair and member of St. Matthew's, says. "This is an amazing story of what God can do through each and every one of God's children."

Since its founding, PIMIL has sponsored more than 2500 students, including many from families affected by Ebola and COVID. More than 100 donors, organizations and congregations sponsor students and make contributions to PIMIL, which pays nearly \$25,000 in school tuition for Liberian students each semester. Today the program also helps renovate schools, establish libraries, and supply safe drinking water in schools.

Congratulations Mother Abby, from your St. Margaret's Family.

Let Us Pray

**Grace is when God gives
us good things that we
don't deserve.**

**Mercy is when He spares us
from bad things we deserve.**

**Blessings are when He is
generous with both.**

**Truly, we can never run out
of reasons to thank Him.
God is Good All The Time!**

**Welcome to
Saint Margaret's Episcopal Church
Women's Weekend Celebration**



**Saturday Luncheon May 20, 2023 11:00AM
Sunday Service May 21, 2023 9:30AM**

The Reverend Benjamin E.K. Speare-Hardy II, Rector

The Reverend Abby Flemister, Celebrant

**The Reverend Vanessa O. Ward, Guest Speaker
President of the Omega CDC**

READY WORK⁴

Looking for a Job?

Join Our Team for This Opportunity

- 4 weeks of fast paced training
- Understand the employment process
- Leave with a completed resume
- Participate in mock interviews



Contact Information:

Website:

<https://stmargaretsdayton.org>

Email:

smecdayton@gmail.com

Phone:

(937) 416-7131

**Show Employers How Fabulous You Are!!
Contact Ready4Work Today Get Started**

St. Margaret's Episcopal Church, 5301 Free Pike, Trotwood, OH 45426

**The Episcopal Church Women
Presents
An Afternoon Of**

Fedoras, Food, Fun, and Fellowship

Celebrating Women's Weekend

Luncheon, Card Games, Hat Show, Door Prizes



Bring your best Card Game



Wear your Finest or Crazy

St. Margaret's Episcopal Church

5301 Free Pike, Trotwood OH 45426

Donation \$35.00 Call: 937-837-7741

Saturday, 21 May 2023 11AM-2PM

Sunday Worship Service 9:30am , Guest Speaker

The Rev. Vanessa O. Ward, President, Omega CDC

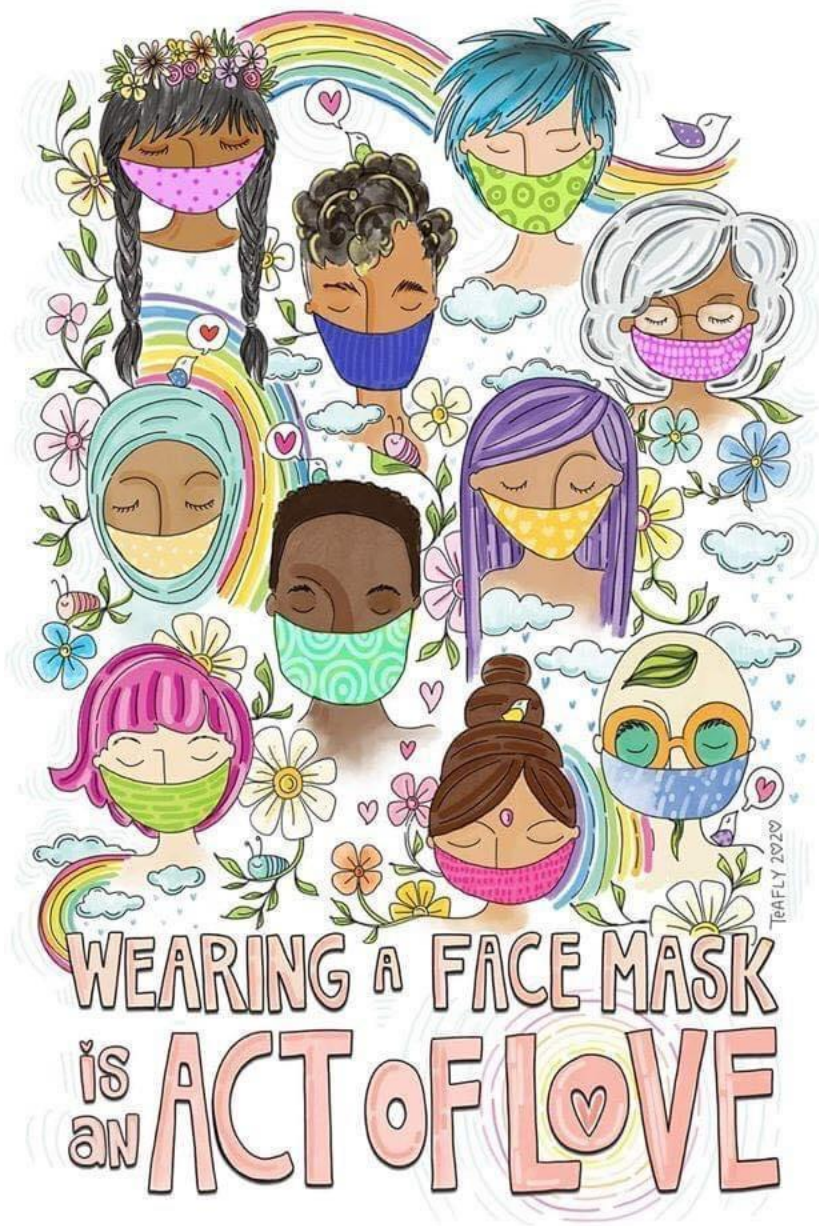
Please bring a pack of Baby Diapers to help us support:

Gem City Gives Diaper Project. Sizes 4,5, or 6.

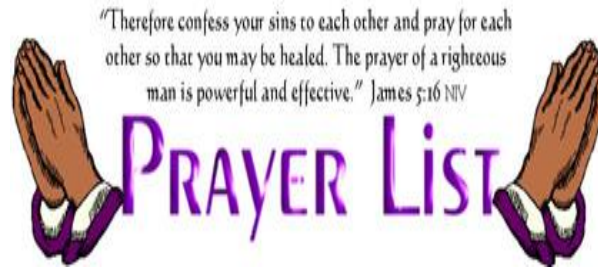




***Peace and Blessings
2023***



WEARING A FACE MASK
IS AN ACT OF LOVE



Bernadette Wills, 4821 Old Hickory Place, Trotwood, Ohio 45426
Beverly Barker, 5012 Heatherton Dr., Trotwood, Ohio 45426, (937) 837-0949
Elizabeth & Tom Clark, Moved to Dallas, Texas
Donna Wright, 413 Majestic Dr., Dayton, OH, 45417 (937) 263-3700
Fr. George Kimani, 303 W. Herr St., Englewood, OH 937 708-6129
Harvey Toles, Walnut Creek Assisted Living, 2501 Keystone Club Drive, Suite #650 Dayton, OH 45439, (937) 299-0194
James & Melanie Francis, 148 Copperfield Dr., Dayton, OH 45405, (937) 540-8206
Deacon Jeanie Manning, 825 E. Main Street, Prairie City, IL 61470, 309 775-3313
Joyce Bolden, 2150 Poplar St., Obetz, Ohio 45307, (614) 491-7879
Paula Ramey, Wood Glen Alzheimer's Community, Magnolia Unit, 3800 Mall Woods Dr., Dayton, OH 45449, (937) 436-2273
Peggy Libecap, St. Margaret's Hall, #221, 19860 Madison Rd., Cincinnati, OH 45206
Robert Lewis, 1312 Earlham Dr., Dayton, OH 45406
Roy Parks, Contact his daughter, Anna Carter @ 336 337-4176
Shawn Sandridge, 917 Stolz Ave., Dayton, OH 45417, (937) 960-077
Valerie Jackson, 3650 Stormont Road, Trotwood, OH 45426, (937)837-6717
Marlene Eskridge, 111107 Appletree Dr. Trotwood, OH45426 (937)226-1048
Delores Walker, 3810milller Lane, Rm142, Centerville. Oh 45459

For any additions, deletions, and or corrections to this list please contact Barbara Bass at church office (937) 837-7741. Thank you.

Remembering St. Margaret's EC

You may make a bequest to St. Margaret's Episcopal Church by preparing a new will or by adding a codicil to your present will. To make sure your exact intentions are carried out wills and codicils should be prepared by or with the advice of an attorney.

The most useful bequest is an unrestricted bequest for the general purpose of the Church. This permits the Church to use your gift wherever it is needed at the time.

For more information on making a bequest consult your attorney or estate planner.

Membership in St. Margaret's Episcopal Church, Trotwood

If you are currently a member of another Episcopal Church and would like to transfer your membership to St. Margaret's please contact the Parish Administrator at 937-837-7741 so that a request for a letter of transfer can be prepared for you.

If you are not currently a member of an Episcopal Church and desire to become a member we would welcome your commitment to God and the Church. All baptized Christians are welcome to receive Communion in the Episcopal Church and to participate fully in programs and ministries of the Church.

Individuals who have been baptized within any denomination can officially be prepared for membership by attending formal confirmation classes, which are conducted by the church. The Bishop subsequent to class completion will perform confirmation of prepared candidates. Dates for both classes and confirmation will be announced when they have been determined.

If you would like additional information or baptism, please call the Parish Administrator at the church office 937-837-7741. Planning a reception or anniversary celebration or just looking for a place to hold a meeting call for complete details.



**Eucharistic/ Acolyte Ministers Schedule
April-May 2023
April 9:30am**

2. Barbara Banner-**Palm Sunday**

* 6. Phyllis Brunson-**Maundy Thursday**

*7. Judy Battle- **Good Friday**

9. Willa Smith- **Easter Sunday**

16. Ellen McDaniel

23. Cynthia Kilby

30. Jim Bolden

May 9:30am

5. Maeda Thompson

12. Ellen McDaniel

19. Cynthia Kilby, Judy Wilson

26. Brenda Cochran

Greeters: Sandra Scott, Barbara Scott, Yvonne Hodges

In Person Service continues with one service only at 9:30am.

Communion will be the communion kits.

Please make an extra effort to serve when scheduled or **if absolutely unable please make arrangements to trade with someone.** Thank you for your dedication and support to this ministry.

Peace and Blessings,
Phyllis Brunson

**Readers Schedule
April 2023**

2. Judy Battle, Gloria Johnson, Robert Bass

9. Wanja Kamani, James Bolden, Monty Reece

16. Robert Stockton, Phyllis Brunson, Raymond Lucas

23. Judy Battle, Brenda Cochran, Gloria Johnson

30. Judy Wilson, Monty Reece, Raymond Lucas

April 6, 2023 is Maundy Thursday. If you would like to read for that service, please let Judy Wilson know ASAP.

April 7th is Good Friday, and in recent years, we have opened the reading to the congregants who attend the Stations of the Cross. We will do that this year as well. For any questions please see Judy Wilson, scheduler.

Please make an extra effort to serve when scheduled or **if absolutely unable please make arrangements to trade with someone.** Thank you for your dedication and support to this ministry.

Blessings,
Judy Wilson

St. Margaret's Episcopal Church

Celebrating 131 Years

To God be The Glory



Living the Vision from Generation to Generation



**St. Margaret's Episcopal Church
5301 Free Pike
Trotwood, OH 45426**

Office: 937 837-7741 Fax: 937-837-7970

E-Mail: office@smecdayton.org

Web: www.stmargaretsdayton.org

Notes