



The Red Door

St. Mary's Episcopal Church

December 2021

PILGRIM PRIEST'S PONDERINGS

DAVID BAILEY

ADVENT

ALMYGHTYE God, geve us grace, that we may cast away the workes of darknes, and put upon us the armour of light, now in the tyme of this mortall lyfe, (in the whiche thy sonne Jesus Christe came to visite us in great humilitie;) that in the last daye when he shal come again in his glorious majestye to judge bothe the quicke and the dead, we maye ryse to the lyfe immortal, through him who liveth and reigneth with thee and the holy ghoste now and ever. Amen

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,
On Sunday, November 14, the members of Saint Mary's Episcopal Church Hillsboro, approved, adopted and endorsed the proposed **WHY statement for St. Mary's**. At that meeting we also discussed the HOW of St. Mary's. In short, we discussed carrying out the WHY by following the Anglican Tradition.

Part of that Tradition is the observation of the liturgical year as followed in the Western Church. The liturgical year for 2021-2022 begins on November 28 with the First Sunday of Advent. The Collect (Prayer) for that Sunday in the Anglican Tradition has not been changed since it was first written by Archbishop Thomas Cranmer for the 1549 Book of Common Prayer (in the original language above). It is part of the tradition to use this Collect during the entire season of Advent, and so you will hear it on all four Sundays.

Advent is NOT primarily a prelude to Christmas, but in fact addresses the three Comings of Christ:

“since the time of Bernard of Clairvaux (d.1153), Christians have spoken of the three comings of Christ:

in the flesh in Bethlehem,
in our hearts daily, and
in glory at the end of time”

Pfatteicher, Philip H. (23 September 2013). Journey into the Heart of God: Living the Liturgical Year.

To these three Comings I would add a fourth:
The Coming of Christ at the end of our lives
to take us to the Father (John 14:1-6).

So we commemorate, we anticipate, and we rejoice in the Coming of Christ.

This Advent I would encourage all of us (myself included) to set time aside to ponder all four Comings of Christ – and what they mean to us individually, to the congregation of St. Mary's, to the community of Hillsboro and Highland County, and to the world. Faithfully pray and ponder the WHY and HOW statements and suggest to the Vestry the WHAT that St. Mary's is called to do in response.

Your fellow Ambassador in Christ,
David+

VESTRY

Vestry Report



John Joy, Sr Warden
 Charles Everhart, Jr Warden
 Richard Davis
 Judy Franklin
 Sandy Ferrell
 Andrea Harner

Newsletter editor—John Glaze
Submissions to THE RED DOOR are welcomed. © items cannot be published without consent of the owner.



*This
 “bothersome pandemic”
 has put our beloved
 Coffee Hour in limbo for the
 foreseeable future.*

A huge “**THANKS**” to all of you who made the effort to attend our after church meeting on November 14. We enjoyed an outstanding sermon from Rev. David, and then he led us after church in a meaningful and wonderful discussion on why St. Mary’s is important to us. We now have a signed, updated document that reflects what many of us believe are the key statements that describe St. Mary’s importance to our congregation.

The next steps involve identifying and then interviewing representatives from the Hillsboro and Highland County to get their takes on what the current needs of our service area are. That list will be summarized and discussed at the 2022 Annual Meeting, and will help guide the Vestry and St. Mary’s during budgeting and other planning processes during the year. Your ideas and suggestions are encouraged! Please think about who should be on a list for a short interview about the needs of the area and what St. Mary’s might do to address them. I will take this opportunity to provide some ideas; feel free to discuss, disagree, or add your own!

People/groups to interview:

4-6 past parishioners who have not attended in the past few years

2-3 from Hillsboro Mayor and Council

2-3 from County Commissioners and staff

2-4 from Ministerial Association or leadership from area churches

At least one from each of Samaritan Outreach, Community Action, and County Probation Department

Others???

Interview format

2-4 sentence intro about the interview

What are the biggest needs you see in the Hillsboro area?

Which of those needs are going largely unmet?

Which ones might a church like St. Mary’s help make the most impact?

Any other comments about how St. Mary’s can improve daily life in the region

Who is this?



Answer next month

The plan is to finalize a list of folks to interview and finalize the interview questions. We would like to have the interviews done before Christmas, and then summarize the results for our Annual Meeting in early 2022, at which time they will be discussed and the “what” of St. Mary’s will be more clearly defined and used by the Vestry throughout the year. If anyone has any questions or suggestions about this project, please don’t hesitate to ask. Contact me, a Vestry member, or call Maggie at the church office and she will get with us and get back you.

Lastly, I wish you all the best during this Holiday season, and hope to see you in church soon. Please note we are going to have a Christmas Eve service this year at 4 pm on December 24.

John Joy, Sr. Warden

Last month: Judy Franklin!



SACK LUNCH! - Second Call

HOME COMMUNION

Maggie announces that the church will begin providing sack lunches to those in need. This will be one time per month, similar to the Soup's On program was. Are you interested in helping with this program? Call Maggie at the church! To date there have been **NO volunteers!** Please step up to help those less fortunate than we!

Receiving Holy Communion helps you feel a part of the Parish of St. Mary's. Rev. David will bring communion to you on Sunday following the service at the church. Call the office to request!

ADVENT AND THE CHRIST CANDLE

On the four Sundays of Advent, there will be an Advent Wreath with four candles, three blue and one pink. One is lit the first week, with another joining it each subsequent week. The wreath is decorated with greenery and a blue bow (the color for Advent). In the center of the wreath is placed the white Christ Candle which will be lit on Christmas Eve, along with the four Advent Candles. The Advent Candles remaining put the focus on the moment that prophecy is fulfilled—that special moment of Jesus' birth. The Christ Candle represents that light that the Son brought into the world at his birth—"God in the flesh."

Beginning on Christmas Day and throughout the season of Christmas, the Advent Candles will have been removed, leaving only the Christ Candle. This reminds us that old things have passed away and all has been made new.

-Deanna Flinn

PARISH PRAYER LIST*

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation and these on our Parish prayer list: Susan Price, Herschel Hook, Nancy Orth, Mary Reynolds, Jim Shirkey, Maxine McGrath, Sharon Kamm, Bob & Dorothy Hodson, **Susan Bright**, Dan Fisher, Pam Phillips, **Tammy Wilson**, Elmer Highley, Randall Jones, the friends, the patients and staff at Georgetown Veterans Home as well as those serving in our armed forces: Macy Lyle, Henry Sherrill, Jaden Chin-Franz, Javier Paula.

Names in **Bold will be removed at the end of the month. If you know the person continues to need our prayers, please call the church office.*

THE WHY AND HOW OF ST. MARY'S

THE WHY OF SAINT MARY'S

By the Grace of God, we the members of St. Mary's Episcopal Church (Hillsboro) aspire to be disciples and ambassadors of Jesus Christ, proclaiming by word and deed the Good News of the Kingdom of God to our community and to the world.

Our proclamation is rooted in the Great Commission (Matthew 28:18-20), the Summary of the Law (Matthew 22:36-40), and the worship of God (John 4:23-24).

THE HOW OF SAINT MARY'S

[Adapted from the Mission Statement "The mission of St. Mary's Episcopal Church is to share the joy of a loving God through worship in the Anglican tradition, fellowship, and service."]

We proclaim the Kingdom of God through the Anglican/Episcopal Tradition, as handed on to us by the Book of Common Prayer, the Lambeth Quadrilateral of 1888*, and the authorized teachings of the Episcopal Church.

*Resolution 11 of the Lambeth Conference of 1888

The Holy Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments, as "containing all things necessary to salvation," and as being the rule and ultimate standard of faith.

The Apostles' Creed, as the Baptismal Symbol; and the Nicene Creed, as the sufficient statement of the Christian Faith. The two Sacraments ordained by Christ Himself – Baptism and the Supper of the Lord – ministered with unflinching use of Christ's words of Institution, and of the elements ordained by Him.

The Historic Episcopate, locally adapted in the methods of its administration to the varying needs of the nations and peoples called of God into the Unity of His Church.

[1979 BCP pg. 877]



December
 1-Merry Jane Wunch
 1-Aland Miller
 3-Lorrie Smith
 3-Peggy Larkin
 13-Lizzie Zumwalde
 16-Grant Joy

Happy Birthday!



Christmas Eve Service
 4:00 pm

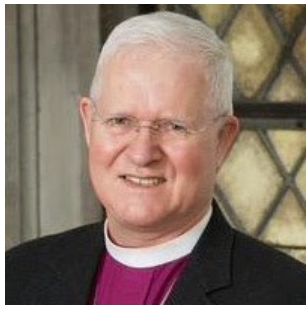


The Red Door

St. Mary's Episcopal Church
234 N. High St.
Hillsboro, OH 45133



MARK YOUR CALENDARS!!!
Bishop Provisional
Wayne Smith
will be visiting
St. Mary's
on
September 25, 2022
(note change of date)



ST. MARY'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH INFORMATION

The Diocese of Southern Ohio
St. Mary's Episcopal Church
234 N. High St Hillsboro, OH 45133
937-393-2043

The Rev. David Bailey
Supply Priest

SUNDAY WORSHIP - 10:00 am
IN PERSON & *Streaming on Facebook*
COMMUNION FOR THE HOMEBOUND—
Sunday after service.

We strive to be safe and make our parishioners and guests feel safe and welcome!

WEB SITE:
www.smehillsboro.weebly.com

Lector & Intercessor Schedule

- 1st week Betty & Jim Heathcote**
- 2nd week Connie Reynolds & Dea Flinn**
- 3rd week Carol & John Joy**
- 4th week Rich Davis & Connie Reynolds**
- 5th week Connie Reynolds & Dea Flinn**