

# The Red Door

## St. Mary's Episcopal Church

February 2021

### PILGRIM PRIEST'S PONDERINGS

DAVID BAILEY

#### AMBASSADORS FOR CHRIST

*"So if anyone is in Christ, new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation; that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us. So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God."*  
II Corinthians 5:17-21

Dear Friends,

President Joe Biden has called all Americans to work toward reconciliation with each other. For those of us who belong to Christ, that is simply a part of our overall responsibility as Ambassadors for Christ.

Our country right now is more divided than I have seen it in my lifetime – and I have seen how the Civil Rights Movement and the Vietnam War caused deep fractures in our common life. Now I call on all of us (myself included) to claim the high calling we have as Ambassadors for Christ. I have seen gloating, despair, anger, outrage, finger pointing, etc. on both the evening news and (more prominently) in social media. None of these behaviors fit our high calling as Ambassadors for Christ.

Each of us who has been baptized has sworn the Sacramentum Oath (or our parents and God parents swore it on our behalf) to follow and obey Jesus as

our Lord. This is the most solemn oath any of us can swear (pgs. 302-305 in the Book of Common Prayer). Implicit in this oath, and explicit in Scripture, is the injunction that we are to grow in our role as Ambassadors of Christ.

What are the outward signs and behaviors that we have grown in this role? As St. Paul wrote:

*"The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against such things. And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. If we live by the Spirit, let us also be guided by the Spirit. Let us not become conceited, competing against one another, envying one another."*  
Galatians 5: 22b-26

Does my life – does your life – exhibit the outward and inward behaviors and signs of love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. If you are like me, I ponder this list and come up far short.

How do you and I prepare ourselves to grow the fruit of the Spirit? The answer has not changed in 2000 years: immerse ourselves in the Scriptures, be faithful in daily prayer, attend the gathering of God's people faithfully (whether in person or electronically), be fed with the Body and Blood of Christ, be involved in ministry to others, and be ready to answer the call of Christ whenever it is presented. If we commit ourselves to these disciplines, God will give us growth!

So my summary is simple: we are Ambassadors for Christ – claim that high calling!

Your brother and fellow ambassador,

*David+*

## VESTRY

## Vestry Report

Bob Lowell, Sr Warden  
 Richard Davis  
 Charles Everhart  
 Sandy Ferrell  
 Judy Franklin  
 John Joy

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

### THANK YOU!!!

Our **ORGAN FUND** has been enriched by several folks during the past year! Thank you to:

**Carl Gamble**

(in memory of Gamble Family)

**Carlene Phillips**

Thank you also to those who have donated to receive our **St. Mary's History** movies! (3rd Volume is in production!)

We received an unspecified donation from **Larry & Peggy Addington**.

For our **MUSIC AT ST. MARY'S** fund, we received a \$1000.00 gift from an anonymous donor.

We extend our love and sympathy to the family of **RALPH VANCE** who recently passed. Ralph was organist at St. Mary's for many years.



Who is this?

Answer next month

*Last month: Bob Lowell*

The year 2020 is finally behind us, and this provides a good opportunity to highlight some of the things accomplished by your Vestry in 2020. St. Mary's faced a variety of challenges and with the help of the good folks at our church, I am pleased to report some progress in some critical areas, as well ask for your continued support in the year to come. The Coronavirus posed a number of challenges, and through the efforts of John Glaze, our Organist and Tech Leader, we have been able to live stream the services when "in-person" meetings were not allowed. We appreciate the work of our Supply Priest, David Bailey, as well in guiding us through the virus wilderness.

One critical area of focus for the Vestry in 2020 was improving financial matters and reporting with the Diocese. I am pleased to report that by year's end, the Vestry has paid up the Mission Share that we were behind on for 2019 in full, and we also were current with our 2020 share by the end of the year. Our Parochial reports, through the leadership of Senior Warden Bob Lowell and Vestry member Rich Davis, were submitted accurately and on time the past two years. This, along with other efforts, is improving our standing within the Diocese.

The other critical area of focus by the Vestry has been on the buildings and grounds and their proper upkeep. Charles Everhart has been instrumental in assisting with these efforts. If you haven't been able to attend church, the doors have painted (red, of course), the playground area cleaned up, hedges have been trimmed, and the sidewalk problems in the Memory Garden and the Lacy Hall entrance have been corrected. We also have received quotes on needed repairs to the masonry, roof, and mortar joints on the exterior of the building. Issues with our HVAC system, including some recent work, have been identified as needing corrective action. With the expenses for the repairs well in excess of \$100,000, the Vestry applied for a grant from the Diocese to assist with these repairs. We were just recently informed the Diocese is willing to help with these repairs. Before the repairs begin, and with the help of the Diocese, we are going to have a professional evaluation done of the buildings. This evaluation will identify any structural problems with the building, and provide a priority list of the repair items we need to accomplish to get our buildings repaired. It is hoped this engineering analysis gets underway in February of this year.

I trust you find this information encouraging, and wish you all the best in 2021.

*John Joy*  
 Vestry Member

Thank-you to Lynn Lowell and Jennie Harner for providing piano music for our services so John Glaze can attend to Facebook streaming.



# ANNUAL MEETING - 21 FEB - immediately after church

1950s

PHOTOS

1950s

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1958 Acolyte Camping



1956 Christmas Party at Ed & Elsie Ayres. Virginia Bell Thompson, Alta Leaverton, Meta Wright, Leone Shirley, Evelyn Hannaford, Omar Hannaford.



1958 Halloween Party



1959 Epiphany Pageant




1958 Jr. Guild Picnic. Identification not provided, but I believe I see Jim & Helen Herzberg, Kathy & Carl Gamble, Janice Hannaford, David Crosby and I think Jim Carson



1957 Halloween Party: (adult) Roger Griffith, Joni Mike Turner, Richard Elberfeld, Jim Carson, Toby Turner, Carl Gamble, Jim Duckwall



1959 Sunday School Christmas Party



*Feb 1 Deanna Flinn*  
*Feb 2 Jennie Harner*  
*Feb 5 John Joy*  
*Feb 7 BJ Gee*  
*Feb 27 Charles Everhart*

**Happy Birthday!**



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

## **ANNUAL MEETING** **21 FEB** **immediately after** **church**



### *Opportunities to Love Your Neighbor*

*Samaritan Outreach continues to depend upon donations to meet their current needs. Please consider helping us to make a big donation to them! There is a collection box in the foyer of the new building.*

***Diapers: Size 3 and up***

***Laundry detergent***

***Paper goods:***

***Paper Towels***

***Toilet Paper***

***Women's Sanitary Napkins***

***If you would prefer to mail a monetary donation:***  
***Samaritan Outreach Services***  
***PO Box 242***  
***Hillsboro, OH 45133***

## **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**  
*Streaming on Facebook*  
**IN PERSON!**

*(note: masks are required continuously while in the church buildings, with exceptions as explained by Fr. David during the service. Hand sanitizer and masks are available!)*

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

**WEB SITE:**

**[www.smehillsboro.weebly.com](http://www.smehillsboro.weebly.com)**