



OCTOBER 2020

The MESSAGE

731-285-3522 • www.stmarysdyersburg.org • office@stmarysdyersburg.org

A Few Words from

The Rev. Gary Meade, Rector

“A single sunbeam is enough to drive away many shadows.”

— St. Francis of Assisi

He was born into a life of luxury and plenty. He died in austerity and poverty. Between the two conditions, Francis of Assisi knew far more joy in the latter. This seems counterintuitive: we seek comfortable homes, rich food, and other benefits of a prosperous life. Francis had all that and more, yet he gave it all up in order to serve the sick and the poor. And in so doing he found what has been described as “unconquerable joy.”

His biography in *Lesser Feasts and Fasts* notes that “of all the saints, Francis is the most popular and admired, but probably the least imitated.” Francis found his joy in part by serving others but mostly by his humble service to the God who alone could — and did — provide all that he truly needed. He also gained wisdom from which can learn today.

In these fractured and fractious times, it is so easy define our lives by the hatred, injury, discord, doubt, despair, darkness, and sadness so loudly lamented in our nation and world. Francis, his eyes on God, proclaimed a better way: the way of peace, love, pardon, union, faith, hope, light, and joy.

And so I commend to your attention and prayers the following prayer, attributed to St. Francis of Assisi, whose life we celebrate on October 4. May we all, like Francis, find our joy in God, our Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer and in our work for God’s Kingdom.

Lord, make us instruments of your peace.
Where there is hatred, let us sow love;
where there is injury, pardon;
where there is discord, union;
where there is doubt, faith;
where there is despair, hope;
where there is darkness, light;
where there is sadness, joy.

Grant that we may not so much seek
to be consoled as to console;
to be understood as to understand;
to be loved as to love.

For it is in giving that we receive;
it is in pardoning that we are pardoned;
and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life. Amen.

Yours in Christ’s love,

Gary+

OUR PRAYER LIST



We pray for the following with immediate needs:

Scott Haight Chris Holbrook
Ken Light Lawton Reese
Bob Warren

We pray also for those with long-term needs:

Marilyn Beck Dennis Palmer
Johnny Burks family... Sherry,
Mary Margaret Case Haley, Gavin,
Sue Cochran Lillian, Addison,
Steve DeClue Elyssa and Tyson
Cannon Doan Donna Palmer
Phil Everman Vicki Peery
Polk Glover Elizabeth Ann Pinion
Gordon Haight Sonny & Gracie
Mike Harris Strawn
Trevor Henley Anita Toth
Murray Hudson Jerry Tweedy
Louise Jackson Pat Viar
Bobby Lee Mona Walker
Tom & Linda Shirley West
MacDonald John White
Charlotte Moody Ken White
Agnes Ann Moore Don Williams
John E. Moore David Willard
Eleanor Nunn Betty Young
Jamie Owen

Names will be removed after a month unless specified otherwise. Add a name to this list by calling or emailing the office.

WORSHIP TIMES

Sundays: Holy Eucharist
10:30 am: Morning Prayer via Zoom

Wednesdays:
12:00 pm: Noonday prayers via Zoom

CLERGY AND STAFF

The Rev. Gary Meade, *Rector*
Amanda McGriff, *Seminarian*
Doris Davis, *Parish Administrator*
Carolyn Burnett, *Musician*

VESTRY AND LAY LEADERSHIP

Joe Emery, *Senior Warden*
Alicia Langford, *Junior Warden*
Brooke Emery, *Treasurer*
David Akers Joyce Crihfield
Tiffani Glass Betty Hammond
Jimmy Hawkins Yvonne Johnson
Sherri Lyons

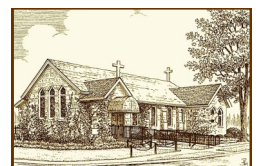
FOR ANY PASTORAL CONCERNS

Please call Father Gary at 589-3370.

*Help
October*

Saint Mary’s Episcopal Church

108 North King Avenue • Dyersburg, Tennessee 38024



The Week of Sunday, October 4

<p>THE FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST, 10:30 AM</p> <p><i>Officiant</i> The Rev. Gary Meade <i>Homilist</i> The Rev. Gary Meade <i>Lector</i> Lynda Thurman <i>Prayers</i> Phil Crihfield</p>	<p>Wednesday, October 7 12:00 pm Noontday Prayers</p>
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The Week of Sunday, October 11

<p>THE FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST 10:30 AM</p> <p><i>Officiant</i> Amanda McGriff <i>Homilist</i> Amanda McGriff <i>Lector</i> David Akers <i>Prayers</i> Dudley Davis</p>	<p>Wednesday, October 14 12:00 pm Noontday Prayers</p>
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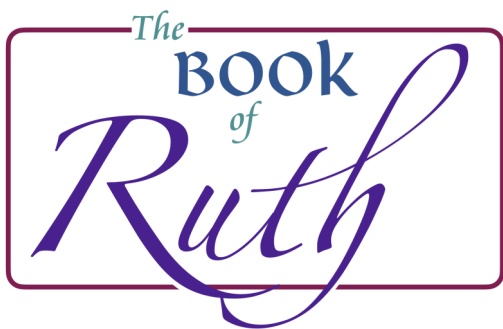
The Week of Sunday, October 18

<p>THE SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST 10:30 AM*</p> <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; border: none;"><i>Officiant</i> The Rev. Gary Meade</td> <td style="width: 50%; border: none;"><i>Acolyte</i> Mary Emery</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="border: none;"><i>Homilist</i> The Rev. Gary Meade</td> <td style="border: none;"><i>Ushers</i> Joe Emery</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="border: none;"><i>Tech Support</i> Amanda McGriff</td> <td style="border: none;">Tiffani Glass</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="border: none;"><i>Lector</i> Jimmy Hawkins</td> <td style="border: none;">Jimmy Hawkins</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="border: none;"><i>Prayers</i> Teresa Stavely-Hawkins</td> <td style="border: none;"><i>Vestry</i> Joe Emery</td> </tr> </table>	<i>Officiant</i> The Rev. Gary Meade	<i>Acolyte</i> Mary Emery	<i>Homilist</i> The Rev. Gary Meade	<i>Ushers</i> Joe Emery	<i>Tech Support</i> Amanda McGriff	Tiffani Glass	<i>Lector</i> Jimmy Hawkins	Jimmy Hawkins	<i>Prayers</i> Teresa Stavely-Hawkins	<i>Vestry</i> Joe Emery	<p>Wednesday, October 21 12:00 pm Noontday Prayers (on zoom)</p>
<i>Officiant</i> The Rev. Gary Meade	<i>Acolyte</i> Mary Emery										
<i>Homilist</i> The Rev. Gary Meade	<i>Ushers</i> Joe Emery										
<i>Tech Support</i> Amanda McGriff	Tiffani Glass										
<i>Lector</i> Jimmy Hawkins	Jimmy Hawkins										
<i>Prayers</i> Teresa Stavely-Hawkins	<i>Vestry</i> Joe Emery										

The Week of Sunday, October 25

<p>THE SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST 10:30 AM*</p> <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; border: none;"><i>Officiant</i> The Rev. Gary Meade</td> <td style="width: 50%; border: none;"><i>Acolyte</i> Rachel Emery</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="border: none;"><i>Homilist</i> Amanda McGriff</td> <td style="border: none;"><i>Ushers</i> Jenny Wright</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="border: none;"><i>Tech Support</i> Anna Claire Wright</td> <td style="border: none;">Anna Claire Wright</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="border: none;"><i>Lector</i> Phil Crihfield</td> <td style="border: none;">Bob Dean</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="border: none;"><i>Prayers</i> Bob Dean</td> <td style="border: none;"><i>Vestry</i> Betty Hammond</td> </tr> </table>	<i>Officiant</i> The Rev. Gary Meade	<i>Acolyte</i> Rachel Emery	<i>Homilist</i> Amanda McGriff	<i>Ushers</i> Jenny Wright	<i>Tech Support</i> Anna Claire Wright	Anna Claire Wright	<i>Lector</i> Phil Crihfield	Bob Dean	<i>Prayers</i> Bob Dean	<i>Vestry</i> Betty Hammond	<p>Wednesday, October 28 12:00 pm Noontday Prayers (on zoom)</p>
<i>Officiant</i> The Rev. Gary Meade	<i>Acolyte</i> Rachel Emery										
<i>Homilist</i> Amanda McGriff	<i>Ushers</i> Jenny Wright										
<i>Tech Support</i> Anna Claire Wright	Anna Claire Wright										
<i>Lector</i> Phil Crihfield	Bob Dean										
<i>Prayers</i> Bob Dean	<i>Vestry</i> Betty Hammond										

* The Vestry will revisit the question of when to open the church for public worship at a special Vestry Meeting on October 4. This schedule is based on the assumption the numbers will be steady enough to reopen for public worship on October 18.



**Coming this Sunday:
Who's in the Family? A Study of Ruth**

Saint Mary's will be offering a new **Bible Study** this fall on the short, beautiful, and important book of Ruth. We will explore themes of family, loyalty, belonging, trust, connection, and more during this four-week course. We'll meet using our new friend Zoom starting on **Sunday, October 4** from **9:15 to 10:00** am.

When Will We Resume Public Worship?

On September 20, the Vestry once again heard from Dr. Mary Stuart David and considered the current numbers regarding the coronavirus pandemic in Dyer County. We also considered the 21 responses to a brief survey in which most respondents expressed either a readiness or at least a willingness to reopen the doors. And yet, as the average of active COVID-19 cases continues to rise, the consensus was to remain cautious and revisit the question in two weeks, at a special Vestry Meeting on October 4.

Until then, keep joining us on Zoom by computer, tablet, or phone. And if you miss any Sunday or Wednesday service, I'm posting a recording of each service later that same day on our website, StMarysDyersburg.org.

— Fr. Gary

October Birthdays: 5: Scott Haight, Betty Hammond; 9: Eddie Davis; 22: Tommy Hopper; 25: Russell Ward; 27: David Buchannon, Bentley Wright; 28: Bob Dean; 29: Rachel Craig; 31: Julia Haight
October Anniversaries: 16: Alicia and Thomas Langford