

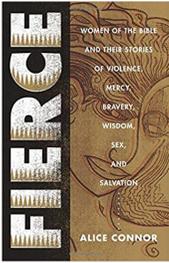
## St. Mary's Episcopal Church

9425 Third Ave., Stone Harbor, NJ 08247

tel: 609-368-5922 fax: 609-967-1616

[www.stmarysstoneharbor.org](http://www.stmarysstoneharbor.org)

facebook page: [St. Mary's Episcopal Church](#)



Here I am - as of October, my 49<sup>th</sup> year being ordained - learning things I never thought possible. And it's all because of our weekly Adult Forum. (Ok, you can say I'm a slow learner.) This morning's topic: did the Old Testament God (known in Hebrew as Yahweh) have a wife? You snicker. Well, so did I. But then, I came to think, after reading Alice Connor and doing some

research...it isn't that farfetched. I'm thankful that we are never too old to learn something new. But taking something new and integrating it into something we can accept; well, that's takes a lot of effort. And to give the Adult Forum their due, they make that effort every Sunday. I can't wait to hear what the group says this morning. (Add to that, this is a woman's issue ... biblical style. It's a powerful issue because it raises some current issues.) It's risky business learning something new. St. Mary's offers that opportunity, regardless of your age. Take the time (9-9:45 Sunday mornings) and take a few steps (to the chapel) ... you might leave thinking about things you never thought possible. ken



conTEXTS came about to explore and discuss a current issue informed by some texts of our faith. Unless you have been taking a long nap, you could not avoid hearing the devastating

news of Hurricane Florence. In fact, in today's church bulletin there is an insert requesting contributions to help the victims of this hurricane through Episcopal Relief & Development. (The bishops of the five Episcopal dioceses in North and South Carolina issued a joint statement on Saturday [15 September] pledging their support for those affected by the storm and asking for Episcopalians everywhere to help by giving to Episcopal Relief & Development.) As Hurricane Florence pounded Virginia and the Carolinas, the ocean and rivers reached historic (if not catastrophic) levels, we are now hearing about people in low-lying areas who, expecting to be flooded out, are considering whether rebuilding in the same location is worth the effort, especially when the likelihood exists that their homes will be under water again when the next hurricane hits. Those are really hard decisions that are affected by available finances and personal links to one's location, but sometimes not rebuilding is the right decision. We can't put ourselves in those peoples' shoes, but we can take time to consider their plight. That's what I'm giving thought to for our next conTEXTS meeting on Wednesday, September 26, in the parish hall, 6:30-7:30pm. If this interests you, join us. kg

### Priest in Charge

The Rev. Canon Dr. Peter B. Stube

cell: 610-304-2539

e-mail: [stmarysrector@hotmail.com](mailto:stmarysrector@hotmail.com)

rectory: 609-830-5077

### Assisting Clergy

The Rev. Dr. W. Kenneth Gorman

e-mail: [k-gorman@comcast.net](mailto:k-gorman@comcast.net)

David Joseph Condo, Music Director

e-mail: [StMarysStoneHarbor@yahoo.com](mailto:StMarysStoneHarbor@yahoo.com)

Julie Taylor, Parish Administrator

e-mail: [jultaylor9425@yahoo.com](mailto:jultaylor9425@yahoo.com)

### This week at St. Mary's, September 23

**TODAY** 9 am Adult Forum

**MON** 11 am Eucharist at The Branches

**TUES** 8 pm AA meeting

**WEDS** 5 pm Choir  
6:30 pm conTEXTS

**FRI** 10 am Alanon

**SUN** 9 am Adult Forum  
11 am Potluck Coffee Hour



### Birthday Blessings to

*Richard Weiss, Joe Hampel, Barbara Cleffi & Soren Hagstette on Sept. 24th, Fred Maiden, Jr.,*

*Lauren Mayfair, & Aydan Quinn on Sept. 27th, and Jennette Ziemba on Sept. 28th!*



### FAREWELL COFFEE HOUR POTLUCK

Next Sunday, September 30th will be the last Sunday that George & Lorrie Zitnay will

be with us at St. Mary's.

We would like to wish them God's blessings on their new home and thank them for their many contributions to our church. If possible, please plan to bring something to share for a Potluck Coffee Hour after the 10 AM service.



**ST. MARY'S SENIOR LUNCH PROGRAM**

resumes on Thursday, October 11th at 11 AM in the parish hall.

Bring your brown bag lunch & ideas for

programs /speakers or topics that would interest you. This will be an organizational meeting to outline future monthly programs. Soft drink refreshments will be provided.

*All are welcome! Feel free to bring a friend.*



**ALTAR FLOWERS**— Our beautiful altar flowers are provided by Blooms of Cape May Court House. If you would like to give flowers in memory or honor of a loved one, please sign up

on the chart in the narthex and send a check to the church office in the amount of \$45 with "altar flowers" in the memo line. It's a wonderful way to honor family and friends throughout the year!

**STONE HARBOR GARDEN CLUB FASHION SHOW**

will be held at The Yacht Club of Stone Harbor on October 7 at 11:30 am. Tickets \$40. A flyer is on our parish hall bulletin board with details about the show and purchasing tickets.

**SUNDAY PARKING** The Borough exempts us from use of meters on Sunday mornings. They include the meters in front of the Church, Sturdy Bank, and on the other side of 95th St. Sturdy Bank lot, & Fred's parking lot may also be used. Fred's requires that cars be moved by 12 noon.



**Are you new or visiting with us? We're glad you are here!** We would love to be able to welcome you more personally. If you would like that as well, please ... Fill out a welcome card. These are located in each of the pews. You may place it into the offering plate or hand it to any of our ushers, greeters, or liturgical assistants. Also, please take a welcome packet & sign our guestbook on your way out of church.

**Holy Communion** Here at St. Mary's, everyone is welcome to join us for Holy Communion. Consecrated grape juice and gluten-free hosts are available. Please tell our Eucharistic Minister when you come to the rail. Should you wish to receive a simple blessing, please indicate that by crossing your arms across your chest.



**HELP WANTED**

**USHERS & GREETERS**—Like to be an usher or a greeter? We have openings available on the schedule for men and women.

**FLOWER DELIVERY**—Would you like to deliver the altar flowers on Mondays to parishioners?

Let the church office know if you can help with either of the above. Thank you!



**Fall's a good time to clean out and St. Mary's This 'n That Thrift Shop will be happy to receive your clutter.**

Your donations of gently used clothing, household items and furniture may be brought to the shops in Rio Grande or call for a pick up. The shops are open Monday thru Saturday, 10 to 4 pm. *Volunteers are always needed and welcome too!* Talk to our store manager, Debbie 886-7272 if you can give an hour or two of your time. Thank you!



**FAMILY PROMISE FUNDRAISER—**

"At Your Service" will be hosted by The Windrift Resort on Thursday, Oct. 4th from 6:30 to 9:30. Hors d'oeuvres, Tapas, music, dancing, a Silent Auction featuring local artists, and a Live Service Auction will be enjoyed. \$25 per person.

Reservations: 609-846-7862 x9, or send a check to Family Promise, 505 Town Bank Rd., N. Cape May.

