

December, 2024

# Titusian

## Holiday Happenings

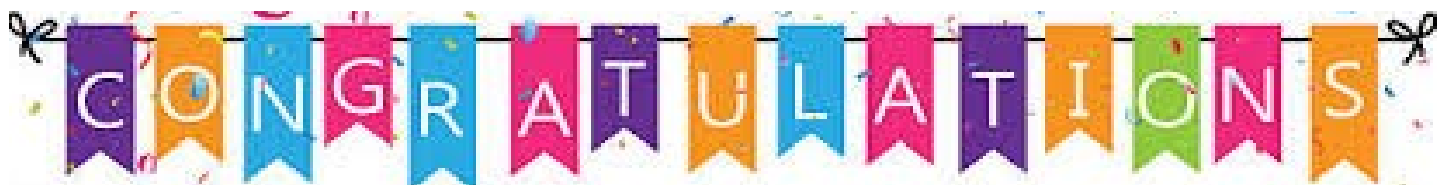


Advent marked the beginning of a journey through the season of Advent. So, what exactly is Advent? Advent means “arrival,” “coming,” or “appearing.” It’s a season where we remember not only Jesus’ birth but also anticipate His promised return. Think of Advent as a time of waiting and preparation, where we look back on that first Advent, the arrival of Jesus as a baby in Bethlehem, and look forward to the day He will come again.



The Eucharistic Minister assists the son of April Chavis with lighting an Advent Candle.

St. Titus' is a diverse and growing community committed to walking with Christ by serving others, pursuing justice and welcoming all.



## **Graduation and Promotion Announcement**

**Robyn Furges proudly graduated from Virginia Commonwealth University on December 12, 2024, with a Bachelor of Interdisciplinary Studies, focusing on Chemistry, Business, and Allied Health. Robyn has recently been promoted to Sr. Healthcare Consulting Advisor at Blue Cross Blue Shield North Carolina.**

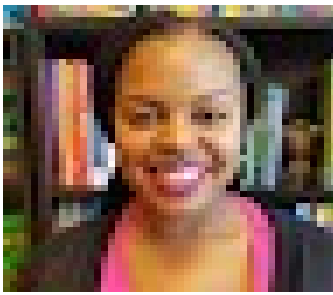


**Special thanks to the NC Episcopal Church Women for their financial support via the Lex Matthews Scholarship, which helped me achieve my educational goals**

**The Lex Matthews scholarships are for women in the diocese aged 23 and older who are seeking specialized training, technical school, community college, an undergraduate degree at a college or university, or continuing education for upgrading job skills.**

**The application form may be found on the website [www.ecw-nc.org](http://www.ecw-nc.org)**





Dr. Marrielle Myers

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**About the Author:** Dr. Marrielle Myers, daughter of Lewis and Cheryl Myers, is an award-winning professor, children's book author, international speaker, and former K-12 mathematics teacher. After years of hearing children and adults say they weren't "math people," Marrielle knew her purpose involved dispelling that myth by highlighting we are ALL math people. She worked closely with teachers and families to cultivate math talk in their homes and classrooms.

That work led her to start the *Marlee the Mathematician* children's book series. Dr. Myers weaves her extensive knowledge of early mathematics content and stories from her childhood to create a series that centers mathematical thinking, representation, family, creativity, and joy. She aims to help all children see themselves as brilliant mathematicians through inclusive children's literature highlighting the math we use daily.

**Mission:** Marlee the Mathematician provides young learners with engaging stories highlighting how mathematics is a natural part of their lives. Through reading educational picture and activity books, children and adults will be amazed at how much mathematics they engage with daily. Through relevant books, author readings, professional development sessions, and community engagement, *Marlee the Mathematician* will ignite a lifelong love of number sense, critical thinking, problem solving, and reading.



*The Myers Family*



# CONGRATULATIONS



## *Lionell and Danita Parker*

Lionell recently resigned from the vestry as Junior Warden and has stepped back from church leadership due to health issues. In appreciation of his dedication and tireless commitment to St. Titus' Episcopal Church, the vestry wanted to recognize him during our Christmas celebration. The vestry will purchase and dedicate a bench in Delany Park in honor of Lionell and Danita Parker.



**Lionell Parker** has been actively involved with **St. Titus' Episcopal Church** in Durham. He has served in many positions, such as the **Junior Warden**, **Chair of finance Committee**, **Member of Altar Guild**, **Lay Eucharistic Minister**, **Acolyte Warden**, (when we sponsored a week-end to the Washington National Cathedral for observance of North Carolina Day). *Photo below*

Lionell has held various positions, including Director of Library Services at North Carolina Central University, Librarian at Piedmont Community College. His educational background includes an MBA from Duke University's Fuqua School of Business and a Bachelor of Arts in Journalism from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. He was instrumental in securing broadband services at Piedmont Community College in Yanceyville, Caswell County. He is a notable figure in Durham, NC, particularly known for his contributions to education and community service. Additionally, Lionell was involved in the Boy Scouts of America, serving as Scoutmaster for Troop 137 at St. Joseph AME Church in Durham. His leadership helped grow the troop from just two scouts to twelve members within a year.



**Danita Parker**, is active in several ministries at **St. Titus'** including **The Altar Guild** and maintenance of the display boards in **St. Titus'** narthex and hallways. She has served as the Clerk for the Vestry, a Sunday School Teacher and Vacation Bible School Teacher and also Co-Youth Coordinator. She and Lionell took young people to Browns Summit and Kanuga. They also organized two trips to the National Cathedral with our Acolytes.



**ACOLYTES COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECT**



# Our Young Adults On the Move

Henry Kennelly, is the Coordinator of St. Titus' Younger Adults Ministry



**MLK Service Projects:** For the annual day of service to honor Dr. Martin Luther King (Monday, January 20, 2025), we hope for a partnered project between the young adult ministries of St. Titus' and St. Philip's churches. For more information, contact Henry Kennelly at [hbkennelly@gmail.com](mailto:hbkennelly@gmail.com).

**St. Titus'** also continues its tradition of providing food and hospitality to volunteers who, on the MLK Day of Service, are packaging over 150,000 meals to be distributed to local food banks. Volunteers for the 8:15-11:30 am event are needed at Duke School, 3716 Erwin Rd., Durham.

Donations of cookies, chips, and treats for volunteers are also needed and can be left at the church. To volunteer, please call St. Titus' Parish Office 919-682-5504.



# In Loving Memory

Murphy Denell Jenkins, age 94 of 108 Conway Drive, Durham, North Carolina, died December 14, 2024.

Born in Baton Rouge, Louisiana on April 15, 1930, he was the eighth child of the late Sims F. Jenkins, Sr. and Mary Louise Giles Jenkins. After graduating from Mc.Kinley High School in Baton Rouge in 1947, he attended Xavier University in New Orleans, Louisiana, where he received the Bachelor of Science

(BS) degree in Pharmacy, in 1951. He received the Master of Science (MS) degree in Biological Science from Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey. He did further studies in the area of Biochemical Pharmacology at Purdue University, in Lafayette, Indiana. Murphy was a registered pharmacist in the state of Louisiana and served in the U.S. Army Medical Service Corps at the Percy Jones Army Hospital in Battle Creek, Michigan and at the 343rd General Hospital in Japan. After an honorable discharge from the military, Murphy accepted a position as Assistant Professor of Pharmacology in the School of Pharmacy at Florida A&M University, in Tallahassee, Florida, finally serving as Associate Professor and Acting Dean until 1964.

Murphy was employed by the V.A. Hospital as a Research Chemist, where he co-published papers on DNA Polymerase. He retired from this agency in 1990 as the Sick Cell counselor, a program that he started and spearheaded.


Murphy was married to the late Inez Tompkins. He was also preceded in death by their daughter Antoinette Rochell. He is survived by three grandchildren, Matthew of Durham, North Carolina, Amad of Miami, Florida, and Alrinez of Durham, North Carolina. He is also survived by nieces, nephews, and great-grandchildren.

Murphy was a member of St. Titus' Episcopal Church, where he served as a Lay Reader, Lay Eucharistic Minister, a member of the Vestry, Warden of the Columbarium, and an active member of the Brotherhood of St. Titus, among many other organizational roles. Murphy was a life member of the Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc. and served as Polemarch of the Durham Alumni Chapter for one year. He held memberships in other organizations such as the American Pharmaceutical Association, the National Pharmaceutical Association, Chi Delta Mu, The Society of the Sigma Xi, Rho Chi, and the Saturday Nite Therapeutic Session Pinochle Card Club.

## Publications

- 1969 Ove, P. Jenkins, M. and Laszlo, J., "Changes in DNA Polymerase and Nuclease During Rat Liver Regeneration." *Biochem. Biophys. Acta.* 174; 629-635.
- 1969 Ove, P., Laszlo, J., Jenkins, M. D. and Morris, H.P., "Increased DNA Polymerase Activity in a Series of Rat Hepatomas." *Cancer Res.* 29: 1557-1561
- 1970 Baril, E. F., Jenkins, M. D., Brown, O. E. and Laszlo, J., "DNA Polymerase Activities Associated with Smooth Membranes and Ribosomes from Rat Liver and Hepatoma Cytoplasm." *Science* 169:87-89.
- 1971 Baril, E. F., Brown, O. E., Jenkins, M. D. and Laszlo, J., "Deoxyribonucleic Acid Polymerase with Rat Liver Ribosomes and Smooth Membranes. Purification and Properties of the Enzyme." *Biochemistry* 10: 1981-1992.
- 1973 Baril, E. F., Brown, O. E., Jenkins, M. D. and Laszlo, J., "Deoxyribonucleic Acid Polymerase with Rat Liver Ribosomes and Smooth Membranes. Purification and Properties of the Enzyme." *Biochemistry* 10: 1981-1992
- 1973 Baril, E. F., Jenkins, M. D., Brown, O. E. Laszlo, J. and Morris, H. P., "DNA Polymerases I & II in Regenerating Rat Liver and Morris Hepatomas." *Cancer Res.* 33: 1181-1193.

**MASS OF THE RESURRECTION**  
*A Celebration of the Holy Eucharist Offered in Joyful  
 Thanksgiving for and in Loving Memory of*



**Murphy Denell Jenkins**  
 April 15, 1930 – December 14, 2024

Saturday, January 4, 2025 at 10:00 a.m.  
 St. Titus' Episcopal Church  
 400 Moline Street—Durham, NC 27707

The Reverend Valerie J. Mayo, Celebrant  
 The Venerable Sarah Woodard, Assisting Clergy

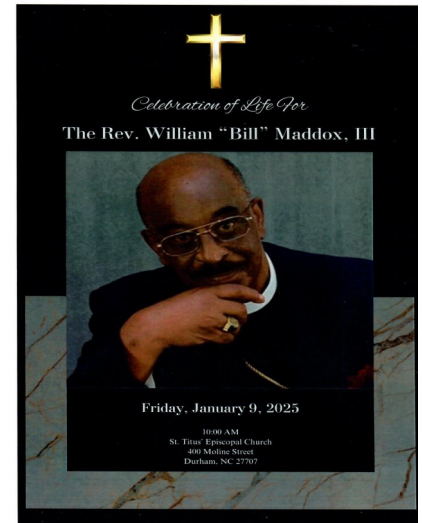




# In Loving Memory

Today, we honor the extraordinary life of Father William E. Maddox III, a man whose journey was defined by faith, service, and dedication. He was called to heavenly service on December 8, 2024.

Born on January 31, 1944, in Bryn Mawr and raised in Darby, Pennsylvania, William “Billy” was the beloved son of the late William E. Maddox, Jr., and Dorothy Drakeford Newby Maddox. His early years shaped the foundation for a life of purpose and distinction. As a youth, he attended the historic Camp Atwater in North Brookfield, MA, where he made many lifelong friendships. After graduating from Darby High School, he pursued higher education at the University of Maryland Eastern Shore, where his leadership and commitment to excellence became evident. A proud and dedicated member of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc., William embodied the fraternity’s values of achievement and brotherhood. He went on to graduate from the Philadelphia School of Divinity of the Episcopal Church (now part of the Episcopal Divinity School of Cambridge, MA) and furthered his studies at the University of Pennsylvania and Temple University.



Father Maddox was ordained to the priesthood in December 1970 at Saint Mary’s Episcopal Church in Chester, Pennsylvania, by the Rt. Reverend Robert L. DeWitt, Bishop of the Diocese of Pennsylvania. Over the years, his ecclesiastical career reflected his deep commitment to spiritual leadership. He served as Priest-in-Charge of St. Mary’s, Chester, Virginia, and St. Mary’s, Bainbridge, Philadelphia; Curate at St. Augustine Church, Brooklyn, New York; Associate Priest at the historic African Episcopal Church of St. Thomas, Philadelphia; and Rector of St. Margaret’s Church, Dayton, Ohio. Prior to coming to Durham as the fourth Rector of St. Titus’ Episcopal Church, he served as Rector of St. Philip’s Episcopal Church in Jacksonville, Florida. Alongside his work in the church, Father Maddox, inducted in 1979, he served an extraordinary 21 years of active duty as a Chaplain in the United States Army, rising to the rank of Major and ministering to countless soldiers around the world. His service brought him to an array of places, among them Monterey Ca, Stuttgart Germany, and Panama City, Panama. Most recently, he became a Canon of the Church in Ghana, Africa.

Father Maddox’s unwavering faith and calling to the church were the cornerstones of his life. His integrity and compassion brought hope and inspiration to all he encountered. A proud and active member of the Elks, a 33rd degree Mason, and member of the Order of the Shrine, he worked tirelessly to support community initiatives and foster unity. He will be dearly missed by lingering friends across the world. Above all, he cherished his family, including his beloved wife of 47 years, Cleopatra Crawley Maddox, and their son, William E. Maddox IV. His legacy lives on in the countless lives he touched, and his memory will forever inspire those who knew and loved him. Let us honor his remarkable life by carrying forward his example of service, faith, and brotherhood.

“Well done, good and faithful servant.” – Matthew 25:23.





# UPCOMING *Mark Your Calendars* EVENTS



Pam Howard, beloved and long-time member of St. Titus' Episcopal Church, departed this life and entered into eternal rest on December 31, 2024. A memorial service will be held at St. Titus' on **Saturday, February 1, 2025**. Additional arrangements will be shared with our faith community once finalized.

Condolences may be sent to Pam's son, Damon Howard, at 1001 Fox Hound Court, Charlotte, NC 28212.



St. Titus' will hold its annual meeting on **Sunday, February 9, 2025**. There will be one service that day at 9:30 am., and the annual meeting will be part of the service. Following the service and meeting, please join us for a potluck breakfast. All members are encouraged to attend, and everyone is welcome.

## New Year's Reflections

Looking back on the months gone by,  
As a new year starts and an old one ends,  
We contemplate what brought us joy,  
And we think of our loved ones and our friends. Recalling all  
the happy times,  
Remembering how they enriched our lives,  
We reflect upon who really counts,  
As the fresh and bright new year arrives. And when I/we  
ponder those who do,  
I/we immediately think of you.

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