

# ST. MARY'S EPISCOPAL SCHOOL

Winter 2019



The Art of Curating | The Importance of For Girls. For Life. | New FACES



# ST. MARY'S EPISCOPAL SCHOOL

— For Girls. For Life. —

## In This Issue

Winter 2019

- 3 The Art of Curating
- 11 The Importance of For Girls. For Life.
- 16 Five New FACES Immersed in St. Mary's Culture
- 25 Generations of Jenses
- 26 Campus News

## Alumnae

- 32 Dianne Elizabeth Hill '75
- 36 Class Notes
- 53 Milestones

## On the Cover: Red Grooms' *The Bookstore*

In 1979, Red Grooms created *The Bookstore* as a working gift shop for the Hudson River Museum. After extensive conservation, the environmental sculpture was re-installed in 2008. The Hudson River Museum celebrates its 100th anniversary in 2019.

### Director of Communications / Editor

Lacey Hibbard P'24'27'31 | [lahibbard@stmarysschool.org](mailto:lahibbard@stmarysschool.org)

### Assistant Director of Communications

Kirkwood McClintock P'11 | [kmcclintock@stmarysschool.org](mailto:kmcclintock@stmarysschool.org)

### Director of Alumnae

Gigi Gould '70 | [ggould@stmarysschool.org](mailto:ggould@stmarysschool.org)

### Director of Advancement

Angie Gardner P'01'04 G'32 | [agardner@stmarysschool.org](mailto:agardner@stmarysschool.org)

### Director of Admission & Financial Aid

Nicole Hernandez P'26'27'33 | [nhernandez@stmarysschool.org](mailto:nhernandez@stmarysschool.org)

### Photography

Lisa Buser P'14

### Design

Gabrielleschi Creative, Jerry House

### Contributors

Becky Bicks '06, Emily Edwards '03, Gigi Gould '70, Larry Jensen P'05'10 G'32'34, Kirkwood McClintock P'11, Dr. Pat McFadden P'22, Penny Spiegelman Register-Shaw '75, Courtney Shove '96

### Letters to the Editor:

*Please address all correspondence to:*

Lacey Hibbard  
St. Mary's Episcopal School  
60 Perkins Extended  
Memphis, TN 38117  
[lahibbard@stmarysschool.org](mailto:lahibbard@stmarysschool.org)  
(901) 537-1426

*Evans Rogin '27 adding chalk pastel  
to her still life ink drawing from observation.*

**The mission of St. Mary's Episcopal School is to  
provide a superior educational experience for girls  
which will encourage and enable each student  
to reach her individual potential.**

## HEAD OF SCHOOL

Albert L. Throckmorton

## BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Margaret Frazier Gardner '85 P'21, *Chair*

Robert F. Fogelman II P'29, *Vice Chair*

Jeffrey Block P'24'26, *Treasurer*

Cristina S. Fockler P'06, *Secretary*

Wendy Pritchatt Ansbro '79 P'09

Allison Garrett Braswell '88 P'22

James A. Breazeale P'85'91 G'12'18

Edward S. Chin P'15'17

Timothy (Ted) E. Davis, Jr. P'20'22

Brooke Dishmon, DDS. P'24

P. Brian Fowler P'21'25

Malika Tuli Goorha, M.D. P'26'29

Celeste Bailey Herburger '91 P'22'26'29

Laurita B. Jackson P'17'19

Stephanie Linkous P'21

Andrew Mathes P'21

Michael L. Matthews P'15'18

Julia Chesney McDonald '96 P'31

Gretchen Wollert McLennon '93

Ellen Clark Moore '73

Elvira R. Ormseth P'24

Joelle L. Rogin P'25'27

John M. Russell P'17

Monica Skipper P'21

Mary Katherine Stout P'29

Hallie McNeill Ward P'25

## At Large Members

Sara L. Hall P'18

William (Billy) Orgel P'17

## Ex Officio Members

The Right Reverend Don E. Johnson

*Bishop, The Diocese of West Tennessee*

The Reverend Alexander H. Webb II

*Rector, Church of the Holy Communion*

Katie Zanone Webb '93

*President, Alumnae Association Board*

Marie M. Dowling P'22

*President, Parents Association Board*

Mike Murphy, Senior Warden

## Trustees Emeriti

Thomas M. Garrett III P'83'88

G '08'09'15'22

Barbara R. Hyde P'17

Brooke A. Morrow '74

Michael D. Rose\*

## ALUMNAE BOARD

Katie Zanone Webb '93, *President*

Elizabeth Simpson Alrutz '82 P'15

Essie Arrindell-Williams '98 P'26'29

Aarti Goorha Bowman '92

Lisa Bratton Chiles '93

Madge Logan Deacon '69

Amina Dilawari '95

Erica Evans '05

Whitney Baer Foster '00

Elizabeth Summit Gordon '07

Emily Templeton Gray '05

Cara Greenstein '10

Anna McQuiston Holtzclaw '88 P'24

Lexie Hicks Johnston '00

Corinne Friese McLaughlin '76 P'16

Mollie McCarroll Newman '81 P'15

Sophie Askew Parker '94

Katie Broer Parr '98

Anna Snyder Rojas '01 P'32

Courtney Shove '96

Lauran Glassman Stimac '00

Kate Metcalf Sullivan '01

Abby Yandell Talbot '03

Jennilyn Jennings Utkov '77

Libby Wetter Witherington '68 G'27'28

Jan Valentine Wiygul '76 P'05

\*Deceased

# Dear Friends,

“Curate” is a verb that has become fashionable in the last decade or so, applied to everything from merchandise to food to even culture. By definition, curators “select, organize, and look after objects or works of art in a collection or exhibition, typically using professional or expert knowledge.” But how and where does one begin to acquire such knowledge?

In this issue, you will read about four alumnae who followed distinct paths in their journeys to becoming curators. Their museums are as different as the areas of the country in which they are located, and their fields of interest and expertise are equally diverse. Yet all of them credit St. Mary’s—the teachers, the all-girl environment, the high expectations—with enabling them to pursue their chosen field of work.

A study recently released by the National Coalition of Girls Schools (of which St. Mary’s is a member) provides unequivocal support for the value of an all-girls

education. The study cites higher aspirations, greater motivation, active engagement in learning, higher levels of support, and more open exchanges of ideas as being hallmarks of girls’ schools.

None of this is a

surprise to our alumnae or our students. For generations, St. Mary’s teachers have inspired and encouraged students to meet and exceed expectations, not only in academics but in the pursuit of their individual goals. That tradition of excellence continues today.

In our rapidly changing world, St. Mary’s continues to respond to new technologies, to societal norms, and to evolving educational practices. However, the constants at St. Mary’s remain. We continue to provide a superior education to girls so that they may pursue their own distinct paths in their journeys to becoming whoever and whatever it is they are meant to be.

In order to be successful, a curator must be articulate, organized, adept at multitasking, proficient in writing, and knowledgeable. In other words, she is a St. Mary’s “girl.”

Albert L. Throckmorton

Head of School





# The Art of Curating

By Emily Edwards '03

When contemplating the future, a lucky few high school students fall in love with a subject that leads directly to the perfect vocation. For most, however, it is not that simple. In either case, tracing the path from an interesting class to college major to eventual profession is almost always circuitous.

Four Alumnae, all of whom are museum executives, arrived at their careers in different ways, but all credit St. Mary's and the teachers from whom they learned with instilling both a love for the arts and the discipline required to study and pursue them professionally. Caitlin Smith Bowron '08, Anabeth Guthrie '93, Katie Runyan '01, and Laura Vookles '78 each appreciates

the education she received at St. Mary's and the encouragement to pursue her passion professionally.

**Caitlin Smith Bowron '08** loved to learn and loved music at St. Mary's and pursued both as an undergraduate. She turned to graduate work in library and information science at the University of Texas and found herself at the annual conference for the Society



Caitlin Smith Bowron '08, Archives Manager at the Coca-Cola Company in Atlanta, GA, oversees the 133-year-old collection of Coca-Cola artifacts, artwork, marketing and executive records, and visuals belonging to Coca-Cola.

of American Archivists. “At the time, I didn’t know which direction to go,” she said, referring to her post-degree

plans. A friend encouraged her to attend the business archives roundtable, which featured the archivists from Estée Lauder and Coca-Cola. Until that point, Bowron had been somewhat frustrated with her career prospects; archivists were difficult to access and not visible to the public. But at that roundtable, “a light bulb went off” for her. “I could process history and make it accessible to people in a unique way,” she says. She applied for and received a coveted summer internship working in the Coca-Cola archives. She spent another year after graduation at Coca-Cola before a brief stint at the Birmingham Museum of Art.

When she and her husband returned to Atlanta in 2016, her former colleagues at Coca-Cola encouraged Bowron to apply for an opening as a Fine Art Specialist. “It was intimidating at first,” remembers Bowron, as unlike many others in similar positions, she did not have an art history degree. But Bowron knew the answer from her St. Mary’s days, “I studied a lot.” At the time, Coca-Cola owned around 2000 works of art, ranging from Picasso to Warhol, but no one had ever catalogued the collection.

Over the next two and a half years, Bowron, with the help of an intern she hired, catalogued the company’s

collection and curated art exhibits that were displayed in high visibility areas and executive offices across the Coca-Cola campus.

*“I could process history and make it accessible to people in a unique way.”*

Caitlin Smith Bowron '08

Today, Bowron is the Archives Manager for Coca-Cola and spends her days coordinating efforts between the company’s marketing departments, various business units, and public relations groups across the world, whenever a need arises to tap into the company’s expansive collection. The archives hold all of Coca-Cola’s historical artifacts, including marketing records, past advertising campaigns, and associated artwork.

“Coca-Cola really celebrates its heritage,” Bowron says. She has worked on the marketing campaign celebrating the contour bottle’s 100th anniversary, as well as the upcoming 100th anniversary of Coke’s presence in France. Some days, you will find her combing through the boxes containing some 190,000 catalogued items, looking to fulfill a specific request she has received. If stacked end-on-end, Coca-Cola’s catalogued artifacts would span approximately four miles, and that figure does not include several paper collections. Other days, she is checking on licensing rights so that business units can release vintage television ads or helping the World of Coke Museum plan its exhibits. Everything on display at the museum is either on loan from the archives or has been lent to the archives.

Her job requires a very specific sense of detail, a characteristic Bowron says she owes to her education. “We were taught to approach our work with a sense



of pride and responsibility,” she notes, adding that St. Mary’s gave her a profound amount of respect for all of the work she does. Bowron proudly acknowledges that her time at St. Mary’s has been “intricately woven” into how she views both her life and her career.

**Anabeth Guthrie '93** shares Bowron’s sentiments. Walking into her job at the National Gallery in Washington, D.C. “felt like home,” because the Gallery’s high standards of excellence echoed so much of what she experienced as a St. Mary’s student. Inspired by faculty members such as Joyce Gingold and Anne Anthony, Guthrie found her niche in art history early at St. Mary’s and spent her weekends taking classes at the Memphis College of Art and working at the Brooks Museum. She chose the University of Mary Washington based on the reputation of its art history program, noting that she uses her degree every day.

Today, Guthrie is a public face for an esteemed cultural institution that

welcomes 5.5 million visitors every year. As Chief of Communications at the National Gallery of Art,



Anabeth Guthrie '93 in the East Building of the National Gallery of Art in Washington, D.C.

Guthrie reports to the Gallery's director and leads a team of eight. With the primary focus of her job being communications and public relations, she spends her days responding to media requests, directing new marketing initiatives,

promoting community outreach, and collaborating with staff members of some of the nation's most prestigious museums including the Los Angeles County Museum of Art and The Getty. Guthrie

believes St. Mary's taught her how to handle challenging environments and be competitive "in a healthy way." As a senior leader for the National Gallery, she knows she must always represent both her department and the museum as a whole in a positive manner.

One of her biggest challenges came in 2017 when her boss and friend, Rusty Powell, announced his retirement from the post he assumed in 1992. Guthrie knew the replacement process, which spanned nearly a year from that point, would have a big impact on her career. Referring to the press coverage surrounding the announcement of incoming director Kaywin Feldman, (former director of the Memphis Brooks Museum of Art) she remembers, "There was a real urgency to get it right." Nothing was overlooked, including the choice of Feldman's headshot for the official press release. Such an event highlighted the impact of social media in communications. Guthrie's career has seen the rise of social media not only as a powerful tool to reach the public but also as a minefield for many in her position. Guthrie knew that she and her team had approximately fifteen minutes after the internal announcement of Feldman's hiring to go public with a press release before the news leaked online.

*"Social media has completely changed the way we communicate."*

Anabeth Guthrie '93

"Social media has completely changed the way we communicate," she comments.

The National Gallery of Art spares no detail in its expansive facility, and unlike many museums of

its caliber, offers free admission to the public.

"It's a spectacular place to work," Guthrie says, relishing the times she can leave her office and walk through the museum. Most rewarding to Guthrie is working with curators on

new exhibitions. In real time, she can collaborate with colleagues, securing new acquisitions and developing the messaging that will attract visitors. She feels an enormous sense of both pride and gratitude while witnessing visitors experience the museum for the first time.

**Katie Runyan '01** knows that feeling well. When the members of Fleetwood Mac recently visited the Musical Instrument Museum (MIM) to see a special exhibit featuring the electric guitar, Runyan noticed that the artists were every bit as awed as other visitors are been upon arrival. "You realize that we are all more alike than we are different," she says, "and you can see how history, art, and cultural knowledge are all encompassed in music."

As the Creative Director for the Phoenix-based MIM, Runyan oversees the overall marketing, brand, and creative strategy for the largest museum of its type in the world. This is no small task given that MIM has over 6,800 instruments from 200 countries on display and welcomes over 325,000 visitors annually. Her team is responsible for everything from the museum's website to museum signage and advertising. "Our goal is to make the message accessible." Runyan enjoys being



Katie Runyan '01 is Creative Director at the Musical Instrument Museum in Phoenix, AZ, the world's only global music museum.

able to use her passion for designing physical space in a meaningful and relevant way. She and her "bus buddy," classmate Emily Harris Halpern '01, would doodle floor plans with one another, and this hobby ultimately led Runyan to earn a Master of Interior Design at the Corcoran College of Art and Design where she took the exhibition design classes she calls upon in her daily work at MIM.

Runyan credits her St. Mary's art teachers,

*"You realize that we are all more alike than we are different, and you can see how history, art, and cultural knowledge are all encompassed in music."*

Katie Runyan '01

Joyce Gingold and Nancy Prillaman, with cultivating her love of learning in the arts. "Joyce was always creating for the sake of creating, and Mrs. Prillaman gave us a literacy with art that opened up any museum so we could enjoy art on our own." It is that very literacy

that gives her a sense of pride as she watches MIM's diverse array of visitors connect with their various heritages throughout the museum. The museum is laid out geographically, and each display has a video monitor offering footage of the instruments in use. In many

cases, immigrant families have the chance for the very first time to see, hear, and touch music born from their own cultures. She and her colleagues have gathered, cut, and edited the video footage that enables these experiences.

Runyan's team has traveled as far away as China to conduct interviews and collect video footage when MIM hosted an exhibit in partnership with the Henan Museum. Their efforts do not stop there. In addition to hosting 75,000 school children each year, MIM produces 300 concerts that coordinate with its current exhibits. The creative team prepares individualized marketing campaigns in print and digital form for each concert. To bring an exhibit to life, Runyan works with the museum's registrar and lending institutions, taking care to ensure visitors are "blown away" by their experience. Runyan explains, "St. Mary's expected us to carry ourselves with a level of maturity and heightened self-awareness," and on a daily basis she personifies these characteristics as she seeks to tell a story that goes beyond the walls of a museum.

The same could be said of **Laura Vookles '78**.

Vookles was "madly into" art during her St. Mary's days. Her award-winning watercolor from the Brooks Museum's middle school art contest still hangs in her mother's house. But it was not until she witnessed her St. Mary's art and art history teacher become misty-eyed at an art exhibit on a senior trip that Vookles knew



Photo by Alyssa Dreliszak

Laura Vookles '78 is Chair of the Curatorial Department at the Hudson River Museum in Yonkers, NY. The museum celebrates its Centennial in 2019.

she was destined for a career in art history. “I wanted to grow up and be like Mrs. Thrasher,” Vookles says (Mrs. Thrasher is Anne Thrasher Fisher, beloved Dean of the Upper School who taught at St. Mary’s for 25 years).

Her journey took her to the University of Virginia and later Boston University for graduate work in museum studies. She accepted a position as a post graduate fellow at the Hudson River Museum (HRM). That fellowship led to a position as the museum’s registrar, and today, Vookles is the HRM’s longest-tenured employee.

As the Chair of the Curatorial Department, Vookles spends her days creating exhibits that she hopes reflect the character of the Yonkers community. The museum has positioned itself as a “museum for the community,” and over the course of her time at HRM, Vookles has sought to diversify the museum’s holdings to better reflect the character of its home city, acquiring pieces by Derrick Adams and Jacob Lawrence. During the museum’s 2019 centennial, she will showcase an exhibit that has been in the works for a few years, *The Color of the Moon: Lunar Painting in American Art*. A labor of love, the exhibit contains 67 art works (many on loan) and features a corresponding catalog filled with commentary and modern poetry that Vookles has co-authored with a former colleague.

In addition to attending board meetings and helping direct donor gifts, Vookles uses her expertise to assist with everything from dressing the museum’s mannequins (her post-graduate fellowship was as a guest curator for costumes) to decorating the museum’s historic house for different seasons.

She has seen firsthand how art can positively impact a community. Yonkers, the museum’s hometown, is not what one would immediately deem a cultural

mecca. When you consider that the city shed a number of factory jobs in the second half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century and was the subject of a high-profile desegregation case, it is all the more striking that the museum’s junior

docent program has seen each of its 90 high-school-aged graduates be accepted into college, a statistic which Vookles says “inspires her the most” about the museum. “Not everyone has

taken art history,” but she savors the opportunity to bring relevant art to her community on a regular basis through a special magnet program partnership with local schools. The museum’s smaller size enables her to see how her work impacts the people of Yonkers.

For those wanting to pursue careers in art history, Vookles offers a few pieces of advice. “You need to know math, as budgets factor into every museum decision. And you must really like being a student.”

These four alumnae still love being students of art and have found a way to share that love through their museums. They were inspired and encouraged by their teachers at St. Mary’s and developed the skills and discipline necessary for success, whether it was 18 or 40 years ago. Now, the curators of the future are falling in love with the arts, being encouraged and inspired by *their* St. Mary’s teachers, and finding their paths, whether circuitously or directly, to their own perfect vocation.

*“You need to know math, as budgets factor into every museum decision. And you must really like being a student.”*

Laura Vookles '78



*In the Studio* by Jason Lawrence, a recent acquisition selected by Vookles for the Hudson River Museum

# The Importance of For Girls. For Life.

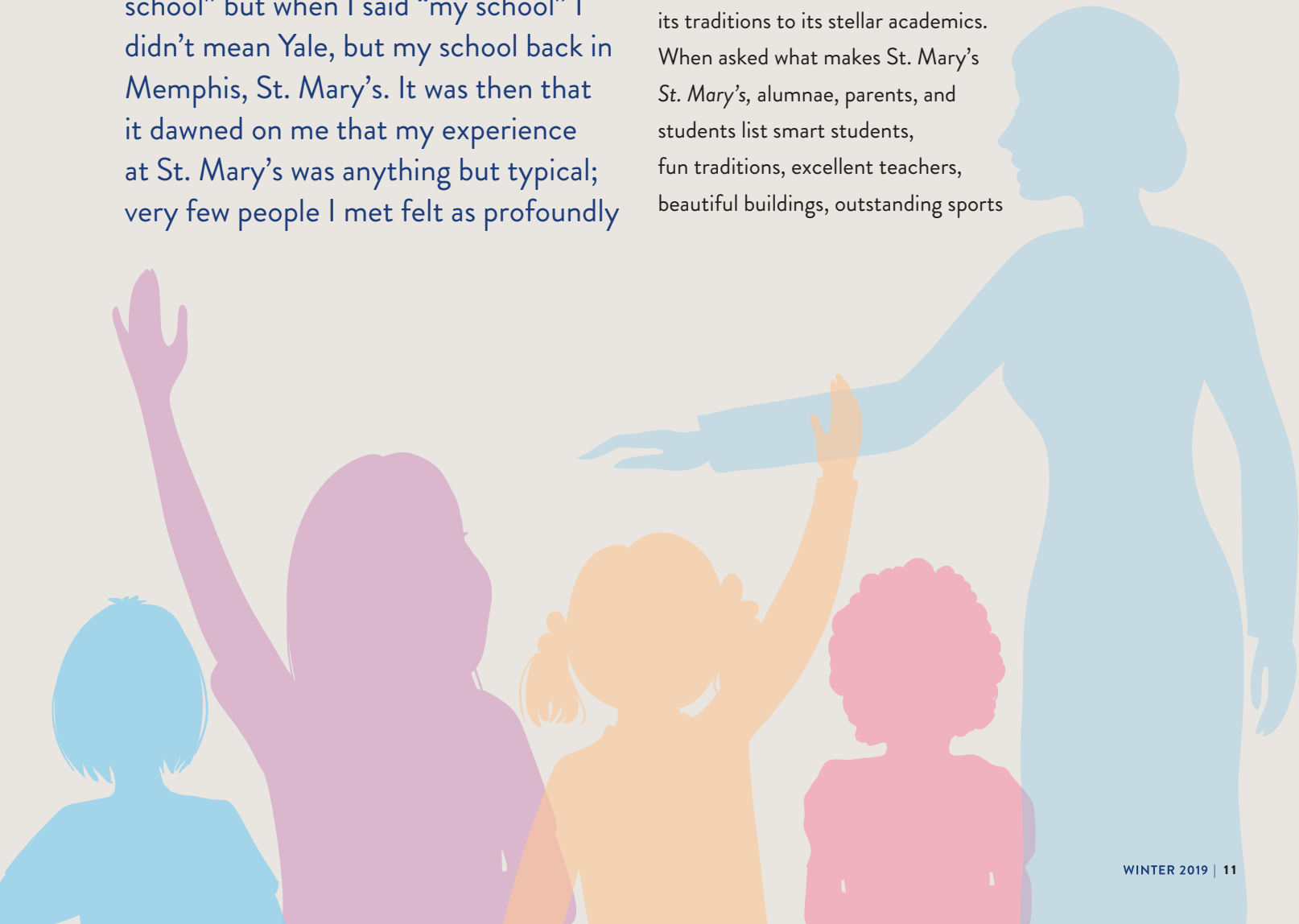
By Becky Bicks '06

---

I loved my St. Mary's experience, but I don't think I realized how special it was until I got to college. Shortly into my freshman year, my new friends pointed out something unusual that I did. They said that I often talked about "my school" but when I said "my school" I didn't mean Yale, but my school back in Memphis, St. Mary's. It was then that it dawned on me that my experience at St. Mary's was anything but typical; very few people I met felt as profoundly

impacted by and aligned with the school they had grown up attending.

Over the years since graduation, as I have ventured into the world, I have reflected on the impact St. Mary's had on me and what makes it such a special place. There are countless reasons, of course, from its unique mascot to the richness of its traditions to its stellar academics. When asked what makes St. Mary's St. Mary's, alumnae, parents, and students list smart students, fun traditions, excellent teachers, beautiful buildings, outstanding sports



teams, etc. But one of the most essential ingredients in the “secret sauce” of St. Mary’s is one we all tend to overlook: the fact that St. Mary’s is an all-girls school.

Our history is a long and storied one, but since its earliest days, St. Mary’s has been dedicated to the education of girls. Mary Foote Pope founded the school in 1847 as a religious boarding school for young women, and she first advertised it in the Memphis Daily Appeal saying, “St. Mary’s School... offers to girls every advantage for thorough mental training and elegant accomplishments that northern institutions can give.” Pope

hoped to provide girls in the South an opportunity for a stellar religious and academic education in order to prepare them for their future (and to make sure they didn’t lag behind the girls in the north!).

When the Sisters of St. Mary arrived in Memphis in the 1870s, women’s rights advocates were actively pushing to further women’s education throughout the region. The growth and development of St. Mary’s was part of that movement, and the school continued to emphasize its focus on educating girls and preparing them for “admission to fine colleges.” For more than 170 years, St. Mary’s

*“Stepping into a Calculus 3 class, I witnessed—for the first time in my life—gender bias around intelligence. It made me feel so grateful for my 15 years at SMS, which had bolstered my confidence and sealed my self-worth before stepping out of the all-girls environment.”*

Elizabeth Braden Beck '06

*“I felt I had the freedom to express myself confidently in and out of class in a way I had never had before.”*

Alexandra Bicks '03

**Here are several important reasons why experts believe girls’ schools matter, as well as concrete ways experts have found that going to a girls’ school can pay off for the students:**

## Girls’ schools allow girls to step outside their comfort zones, which is a critical part of building confidence.

Girls feel more comfortable taking risks such as asking questions or trying something new, in the safe environment that a girls’ school provides. This is an essential part of confidence-building in kids. Expert Rachel Simmons calls these “little acts of assertiveness,” and they also help boost assertiveness and resilience.

(Source: <https://leanin.org/podcast-episodes/expert-advice-for-raising-confident-girls>)

## Girls’ schools better prepare graduates for public speaking and writing.

Graduates of girls’ schools rate their public speaking and writing abilities significantly higher than graduates of coed schools do.

(Source: Women Graduates of Single-Sex and Coeducational High Schools: Differences in their Characteristics and the Transition to College,” by Linda J. Sax)

## Girls’ schools help instill confidence in girls in technology-related classes.

A 2015 study showed that girls gain confidence in technology related classes if those classes are single sex, rather than coed. Girls remarked that being in tech classes without boys made it easier to learn and easier to ask for help. They also found that it was easier to talk to each other about their work when there were no boys around.

(Source: <https://theconversation.com/girls-gain-confidence-with-it-when-boys-arent-around-40160>)

has remained singularly committed to being a place where girls can grow and prepare for their future (save for a short stint in the 1960s when the school operated with a coed kindergarten and first grade), and today, the student body is comprised of 822 girls, age 2 years old through 12th grade.

Research has shown that going to an all-girls school profoundly impacts a girl's educational experience—and it can also be a critical factor that leads to her success later in life. While research is compelling, alumnae who experienced this education may be the best source for enumerating the very real benefits.

Elizabeth Braden Beck '06 spent 15 years in the all-girls learning environment of St. Mary's. She felt especially grateful for her experience when she started

college at the University of Virginia and was in a coed environment for the first time. She explains:

"I didn't realize until college how lucky I was to have grown up in a girls' school where there was never a question about whether or not I was as smart as the boys sitting next to me. Stepping into a Calculus 3 class, I witnessed—for the first time in my life—gender bias around intelligence. It made me feel so grateful for my 15 years at SMS, which had bolstered my confidence and sealed my self-worth before stepping out of the all-girls environment."

Alexandra Bicks '03 came to St Mary's in 9th grade, after attending a coed school from kindergarten through 8th grade. She says that going from a coed to an all-girls environment had a marked effect on how she experienced her days at school.

"At St. Mary's I really felt I came into my own.

*"Our teachers and coaches didn't even need to tell us that girls could do anything (although many of them did, frequently). It was just an unspoken feeling in the halls. We were awesome. We were smart. We were unstoppable. And we were encouraged to be that way."*

Elizabeth Schatz Passarella '95

## Girls' schools can combat the confidence gap between boys and girls.

Claire Shipman, author of *The Confidence Code for Girls* explains, "What we found in our research is that the confidence gap between boys and girls really starts at puberty. Starting at about age 8, there is a plummet—literally of 30%—between the ages of 8 and 12. Girls lose 30% of their confidence, and in many cases, we never get it back. Our confidence often is never as high again as that of men." Girls' schools can help combat this confidence gap by instilling in girls a sense of pride and self-worth at a pivotal age.

## Single-sex schools provide girls with the best opportunity for academic achievement.

A 2009 study by researchers at Mercer University found that girls schools provided girls with more opportunity for academic achievement than coed schools did.

(Source: <https://search.proquest.com/docview/305149660>)

## Alumnae of girls' schools are more likely to become leaders as adults.

According to research, 93% of graduates of girls' schools say they had more leadership opportunities than their peers who went to coed schools, and 80% of grads have held leadership positions since graduating high school.

(Source: <https://www.ncgs.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/11/The-Girls%E2%80%99-School-Experience-A-Survey-of-Young-Alumnae-of-Single-Sex-Schools-1.pdf>)

I thrived in the intellectually rigorous environment. I felt I had the freedom to express myself confidently in and out of class in a way I had never had before.

I think the same-sex environment was really integral to that, and I am still grateful that I went to St. Mary's for that reason."

Elizabeth Schatz Passarella '95 and her sister Holland Schatz Burns '91, whose mother, Libba Schatz was a longtime Lower School teacher, both attended St. Mary's for 14 years.

"Female empowerment and the message that 'girls rule' is everywhere now. It's on t-shirts at Target. But in the mid-1980s? Not so much. That's why St. Mary's was so important for me and other girls my age. Our teachers and coaches didn't even need to tell us that girls could do anything (although many of them did, frequently). It was just an unspoken feeling

in the halls. We were awesome. We were smart. We were unstoppable. And we were encouraged to be that way."

*"By spending my formative learning years in an all-girls school, I developed self-esteem, resilience, and life-long friendships that allowed me to overcome the pre-conceived gender roles of society and pursue my studies in the health sciences."*

Dr. Jennifer Chung Mason '02

Dr. Jennifer Chung Mason '02 is a clinical staff pharmacist at St. Jude who attended St. Mary's for 14 years.

"I am grateful for receiving my education in an all-girls environment, where I was supported by wonderful faculty who challenged me and tailored the

curriculum to help me achieve my full potential. By spending my formative learning years in an all-girls school, I developed self-esteem, resilience, and life-long friendships that allowed me to overcome the pre-conceived gender roles of society and pursue my studies in the health sciences. As a healthcare provider, I often find myself using skills instilled in me

## Girls' schools help girls find their voices.

A national survey showed that 87% of students at girls' schools feel their opinions matter and are respected. Only 58% of girls at coed schools feel that way.

(Source: <https://www.ncgs.org/advocacy/why-girls-schools/>)

## Girls' school students do better on their standardized tests.

Graduates of all-girls schools outscored their peers on the SAT by 43 points.

(Source: Women Graduates of Single-Sex and Coeducational High Schools: Differences in their Characteristics and the Transition to College," by Linda J. Sax)

## Girls in single-sex schools are more satisfied with their school experience.

A 2015 study showed that girls in middle school at single-sex schools are more satisfied overall with their experience at school than girls in middle school at coed schools.

(Source: <https://www.infoagepub.com/mgrj-issue.html?i=p561efbcaa6fd1>)

Girls' school graduates, compared to students from coed schools, are more likely to report they are "very confident" or "absolutely confident" in their understanding of scientific concepts and ability to explain the results of a study and use technical science skills such as tools, instruments, and techniques.

during my St. Mary's years that enable me to provide optimal care for my patients."

Meg Kinnard Hardee '98, who bylines as Meg Kinnard, is a political and legal affairs reporter for The Associated Press.

"Because I was educated for 14 years in an all-girls environment, I believe that I now have a greater appreciation for what it means for women to support each other, to help each other, to root for one another. St. Mary's was rigorous academically, and of course growing up isn't always easy, anywhere. But, by learning alongside and measuring myself against other girls, I not only appreciated my fellow classmates as worthy adversaries but also gained a foundational understanding for what it's like to be in an environment filled with strong,

brilliant, engaging women - and hopefully, along the way, to become one myself, too."

When I was at St. Mary's, I was aware of the school's tagline, "For Girls. For Life." But today, I realize how it perfectly expresses what the school does and why St. Mary's is beloved by generations of girls. "My school" is remarkable because it is a place where girls can shine, feel confident, develop skills, make friends, and speak freely. Ultimately, it offers

young women an experience that creates the foundation for a thriving, successful, fulfilling future. It is no small wonder that so many girls leave St. Mary's feeling enormously grateful for the experience that they had at "their" school: a place that exists specifically to nurture, educate, engage, and support the well-being of girls who are growing into extraordinary women.

*"Because I was educated for 14 years in an all-girls environment, I believe that I now have a greater appreciation for what it means for women to support each other, to help each other, to root for one another."*

Meg Kinnard Hardee '98

## Girls' schools help foster interest and confidence in STEM subjects in girls.

Girls in girls' schools are 6 times more likely to consider majoring in a STEM-related subject in college than girls who do not go to girls' schools.

(Source: <https://www.ncgs.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/11/The-Girls%E2%80%99-School-Experience-A-Survey-of-Young-Alumnae-of-Single-Sex-Schools-1.pdf>)

Alumnae of girls' schools are more confident about their academic performance than those who went to coed schools.

## Girls' school alumnae are more likely to note their ability to work cooperatively with diverse people as a strength.

When asked about their ability to work and live in a diverse society, alumnae from all-girls schools are nearly 10% more likely to have the goal of helping promote racial understanding, and 75% value improving their understanding of other countries and cultures, compared to 70% of their coeducated peers. Half (50%) of girls' school graduates, compared to 45% of female students from coed schools, count their tolerance of others with different beliefs as a strength.

(Source: <https://www.ncgs.org/advocacy/why-girls-schools/>)

## Girls at girls' schools are more motivated and have higher aspirations than girls at coed schools.

Research has shown that girls at girls' schools have higher aspirations than their peers at coed schools. 99% of girls at girls' schools expect to earn a 4-year college degree, and more than 67% expect to earn a graduate or professional degree, as well.

(Source: <https://www.ncgs.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/11/HSSSE-Research-Study-Sample.pdf>)



(L-R) Gabby Moreno, Ale Álvarez, Diana Forno, Dairy Aldana, Vale Schwartz

# Five New FACES Immersed in St. Mary's Culture

By Dr. Pat McFadden, World Language Department Chair

Intense focus permeated the lunchroom. Faint noise from the kitchen trickled in, unobstructed by the customary laughter, squealing, and chatter. Five tables of fifth-graders, transfixed by their visitors, asked substantive questions in Spanish and hung on every response.

The celebrity aura captivating them radiated from Ale, Dairy, Diana, Gaby, and Vale, five ninth- and tenth-grade exchange students from Guatemala. Assistant Head of School Dr. Laura Leathers commented, "Watching Señora Rosenberg's (Sally Mansberg Rosenberg '80) Lower School Spanish students 'interview' the Guatemalan exchange students was impressive. I was amazed by their ability to ask questions and comprehend answers all in Spanish. The excitement was contagious, and they will remember this for a long time."

The five girls were visiting through a new partnership St. Mary's has formed with FACES and Our Cultures, an

exchange program that matches students from Guatemala with families from several schools in Memphis and around the United States. The girls spent nine weeks living with St. Mary's families, attending regular classes, and sharing elements of Guatemalan culture. Upper School Head Dr. Carrie Steakley explains, "One of our global education goals is to host students for whom English is not their native language. Participation in the FACES and Our Cultures Program allowed both the St. Mary's girls and the Guatemalan girls not only to work on their language skills but also to build life-long friendships with girls whose cultures and life experiences are different from their own. Opportunities like this are imperative because they help to eliminate stereotypes, raise understanding, and ultimately cultivate love and respect among different groups of people."

The exchange students, who understood the English of their host families, teachers, and classmates quite clearly,

joined in a regular schedule of classes, including everything from Faith Foundations to Statistics. Chemistry teacher Rose Dunlap was impressed by how hard Vale worked, even with no final grade pending, and how adeptly she picked up on the math, even when some of the English context was technical and hazy. Engineering teacher John Nichols noted that Diana and Gaby both fully grasped their project involving operations and were able to help show their St. Mary's friends new ways to complete specific tasks.

Naturally, the girls also joined in Spanish classes, where long-time Spanish teacher Marisa Smalley saw how much her students benefited from conversing with them. "What a privilege and opportunity it was for my students to practice Spanish with these wonderful native speakers from Guatemala." Middle School Spanish teacher Ellen Weirich said, "Our students' faces lit up when they said something in Spanish and realized a native speaker understood them and replied. They could see this was all about communicating with real people."

Before returning to Guatemala, the students sat down to discuss their experiences at St. Mary's. Although from different schools in Guatemala, each girl perceived a contrast in atmosphere from her school at home, particularly in the all-girls environment. Vale commented, "When you are in class, it is difficult because the boys speak more; they joke more. Here the girls are more calm. They have really good behavior here, and it is easier to learn." Another difference the girls observed was how the physical space at St. Mary's felt somewhat closed in to them. Ale noted that in Guatemala's tropical climate, "You can travel much easier, because it is more open. The hallways are open to the outdoors, and you go into classrooms from outside."

All the girls enjoyed the variety of electives, which is not a feature of the Guatemalan curriculum. Gaby explained, "All of our grade has the same schedule." Diana added, "We take all our classes with the same people for the whole year. I like that here you have some friends in math and some other friends in history. It's really nice." The option for extracurricular sports brought another surprise, since in Guatemala students take two or three sports per year incorporated into the school's curriculum.

Memphis matched their expectations of what the United States would be like, but the amount of green space in Memphis surprised them. Diana pointed out, "In Guatemala you have cities, and you have trees. We have a lot of trees, but we don't have them in the city." Vale added, "The houses here are surrounded by so much space with trees, but to us a city is all houses and concrete." Diana continued, "Here it is also very flat. In Guatemala you can always see mountains and volcanoes."

Vale said she and her friends had heard about a volcano

erupting in Guatemala earlier that very day, and Gaby articulated the Guatemalan perspective that volcanoes are both very beautiful and very dangerous. "Sometimes you have two volcanoes erupt in one week. A lot of people die, but not from lava." Her English hit a momentary gap. "It isn't lava, but smoke and ash and gas comes quickly and burns the people." "Do you mean what we call in English a 'pyroclastic flow'?" She paused a second, visibly analyzing the highly technical phrase, then delightedly said, "Yes, that's exactly it."

The girls universally agreed that their favorite part of the experience had been meeting the people, talking with new friends, and particularly spending time with their host families, on whom they could not shower enough praise. Whether they were going away for a weekend to New Orleans, visiting Disney World, or simply spending time going to the supermarket and walking the family's dog, they appreciated the kindness and acceptance with which our families made them feel at home.

There were some extra special moments as well, such as the unusual November 14 snowfall – the very first snow they had ever experienced. Dairy (pronounced as three syllables) said, "I really loved it because I could touch the snow. I liked how it felt. I thought it would be much harder, but it is very soft. It was exciting to watch it falling and then make snowballs out of it."

The girls have had quite an impact on our community in the short time they were here. Spanish Club president Arabella McGowan remarked, "Each of the girls is so sweet, and getting to know them has been so much fun. I've been lucky enough to sit next to Ale in AP Statistics. Her enthusiastic greetings, even on the dreariest of mornings, have been a really nice addition to our class. She shared friendship bracelets the first week, always eagerly entertains our many questions about life in Guatemala, and is genuinely curious about our lives in Memphis as well. My favorite memory was watching Ale in the stands at an MUS football game this fall. I'm sad to see all of the girls go next week, but I know we will stay connected."

Veteran Spanish teacher Josie McNeely Walker '76, who organized many events for the girls summed up the whole experience nicely. "The exchange between the girls and my students was fascinating and fun. We especially enjoyed the day that we learned slang in both languages. I have to admit that I learned some new expressions in both languages! The most advantageous benefit, however, was that even after hearing about the differences in food, schedules, schools, and customs between Guatemala and Memphis, it all came down to the fact that the girls, both the Guatemalans and the Memphians, are so similar in life goals and in their love for friends and families. What a great experience for all of us!"

### **Albert L. Throckmorton Elected President of the Memphis Association of Independent Schools (MAIS)**

Albert Throckmorton, Head of School, was elected President of Memphis Association of Independent Schools (MAIS) this fall. This role is a two-year term which entails leading the association of heads of the 35 member schools in their four annual meetings.

Each MAIS member school is guided by its own mission, selects its own curriculum, creates its own educational environment, and is governed by its own board. MAIS schools are independent in educational offerings and differ in whom they serve. Among MAIS members, you will find schools designed for specific age groups, co-education and single gender. Some are secular in their approach to education while others are religiously affiliated. Some are designed to address children with special needs; some are progressive, while others have a more traditional teaching and learning environment. All MAIS schools nurture intellectual curiosity, encourage critical thinking, and promote personal growth through hard work, leadership, personal responsibility, and good citizenship.

During his term, Albert is giving attention to the association's marketing, website, and member benefits.



*Albert L. Throckmorton*

### **Vicki Englehart-Thompson Elected Trustee, Association of College Counseling for Independent Schools (ACCIS)**

Vicki Englehart-Thompson, Dean of College Counseling, was recently elected by her peers to a three-year term on the Board of Trustees for the Association of College Counseling for Independent Schools. She recently completed a term on the National Association of College Admission Counselors Governance



*Vicki Englehart-Thompson*

and Nominating Committee, and she is a past President of the Southern Association for College Admission Counseling. Vicki, who previously served as Dean of Guidance and College Counseling at Lake Highland Preparatory School in Orlando, is in her fourth year as Dean of College Counseling at St. Mary's. In addition to her duties here, she is on the Reading Committees for National Merit as well as Coca Cola Scholars.

### **Dr. Carrie Steakley Appointed to National Merit Scholarship Corporation (NMSC) Advisory Council**

Dr. Carrie Steakley, Head of Upper School, was asked to serve on the 2018 National Merit Scholarship Corporation (NMSC) Advisory Council. Carrie's involvement in this organization is a result of her professional experience, background, and reputation as well as St. Mary's students' consistent recognition by the National Merit Scholarship Program. For the last ten years, 22% of St. Mary's students have been recognized as National Merit Commended Scholars, Semi-Finalists, or Finalists.

The NMSC Advisory Council is a group of educational professionals from high schools and other secondary educational institutions across the United States which meets each fall to advise on policies and procedures for the National Merit Scholarship Program, a nationwide academic competition for recognition and scholarships.

In conjunction with NMSC's officers and managers, the Advisory Council reviews the operations of the National Merit Scholarship Program, makes suggestions for modifying and improving program procedures, and shares information and viewpoints from professional experience.



*Dr. Carrie Steakley*

### Dr. Pat McFadden receives the Tennessee Classical Association (TCA) Distinguished Teaching Award

*By Professor Dan Solomon*

**Dr. Pat McFadden, World Language Chair and beloved Latin teacher, received the Tennessee Classical Association (TCA) Distinguished Teaching Award for 2018. The text below of the TCA announcement of this award is an extraordinary endorsement of Dr. McFadden from his professional organization, but not a surprise at all to his students and colleagues at St. Mary's.**



*Dr. Pat McFadden*

Pat earned his PhD in Classical Studies at The University of Michigan in 1999. He found a Latin teaching position the very next year at St. Mary's Episcopal School in Memphis, where he has been ever since, teaching Latin through all levels up to AP; since 2015 he has served as the Chair of their World Languages Department. For almost 20 years now, he has done so much for our discipline, for school, state, and country, that the first question that we on the committee and many of his recommenders asked is "How on Earth has Pat not received this award already?"

Going by the deluge of letters of support we received for him, it is clear to me that many of you are already aware of his extraordinary service to our profession, so let me just rattle off some of those highlights first. He was a state co-chair for the Tennessee Junior Classical League (TJCL) from 2011 to 2017, and he has served as its Treasurer for the last two years (a colleague writes that in this capacity, "Pat was the brains behind the organization, handling all the money, mailings, registrations, and tax codes. He is the one who has made TJCL a financially viable organization.") For the American Classical League, he served as Secretary from 2014 to 2018; a colleague there claims that in that role "he was such a rousing success that we had to be careful not to overload his plate, because everyone would want Patrick as a member of their committee." No wonder he currently serves as Chair of a committee that was asked to develop that organization's first ever three-year strategic plan. He has been an annual reader for the Advanced Placement Latin exams for the last 11 years, where, as one colleague puts it, "Patrick's calm friendliness is the one factor that keeps us all on an even keel." He has published a number of articles on a linear reading method that he has developed for making sense of a typical complex Latin sentence without the crib of written translations. And more recently he spearheaded the #Latinhelps program, all across Tennessee, and a colleague writes that as a result, she still sees yard signs with Latin Spoken Here all around her.

As a teacher at St. Mary's, he has been described there

as "brilliant, but also warm and funny, hard-working, yet easygoing, garnering the respect of the St. Mary's faculty as soon as he was hired," as he increased enrollment and participation both in its Latin program and its Latin club. Another colleague calls him "a veritable Renaissance man whose calling is the Classics, and who embodies integrity, ethical behavior, intellectual curiosity, and abundant kindness." As an example, one colleague recalls

in particular how he helped one of his students who displayed "a debilitating anxiety that prevented her from performing in a traditional classroom setting. Pat developed an individualized plan just for her, sitting with her throughout the rest of the year, carefully modifying, encouraging, and enabling her to succeed, without complaint, second thought, or desire for recognition."

I have an abundance of statements like these available, not only from teachers but also from his students, at least one of whom cites Pat as the major factor that inspired her to go on and become a Latin teacher herself. But something distinctive that I get from all these statements is that he is not only committed and dynamic and works round the clock, but he also has a knack for connecting with his students one by one, and making what we love of the ancient world meaningful to a teenager in 21st century Tennessee. A typical tribute is "I love Latin, but I don't think I would have come across this love if not for Dr. McFadden. He patiently guides us in the right direction during class when we are hopelessly lost. He makes Latin relevant and conveys his excitement to all his students, making us excited for Latin class each day." He starts every class with a "Latin Moment," in which students talk about the Latin they have noticed throughout the day, and one student writes that "his ability to pull examples of linguistic phenomena out of (what seems like) thin air has never ceased to amaze me and is what made me take Latin V in the first place. For example, today in class he explained the complete history of the word "Episcopal" through its Greek and Old English roots using sound laws to explain all the changes, just because we simply brought it up as a Latin moment." One student writes that "I think I speak for everyone in my class when I say we all now know a good deal more about linguistics, ancient Greek society, Italian card games, and even German." And finally, another student sums it up, "Take away Latin, and you still have a great teacher of life. He has a unique sense of humor. He is not loud or obnoxious with it; but, once you get it, you are in stitches."



### MONICA SKIPPER

Monica is Vice President, Brand Experience Marketing for FedEx Services. She volunteers with FedEx Cares and United Way, and as a branding consultant for the Red Cross, the Church Health Center, and Morarka Organic of India. She has served as a deacon and board member at Lindenwood Christian Church. Monica contributed to the industry-leading books *Shift Ahead: How the Best Companies Stay Relevant in a Fast-Changing World* by Allen Adamson and Joel Steckel and to *Designing Brand Identity* by Alivia Wheeler. In addition, she has written articles for Amex Open Forum, “Be It Before You Say It,” and “The Essence of Branding.” Monica earned her BBA in Marketing with a concentration in Advertising and Mass Communication and her MBA in Marketing from the University of Memphis. Monica and her husband, David, have a daughter, Ansley, who is a sophomore at St. Mary’s.



### ELVIRA ORMSETH

Elvira is co-owner of Cornerstone Cellars in Napa Valley, CA. She volunteers at an elementary school in her native Nicaragua and is a Spanish instructor at Binghampton Christian Academy. She serves on the Board of the Children’s Museum of Memphis where she was an award recipient for a CMOM Executive Committee member. Elvira earned a degree in Interdisciplinary Studies from Loyola University in New Orleans, and studied in the College of Arts and Sciences at the University of Washington. Elvira and her husband, Eric, have two sons, George and Benjamin, and a daughter, Erica, who is a seventh grader at St. Mary’s.



### JOELLE LEWIS ROGIN

Joelle is Senior Vice President at Pinnacle Financial Partners. She serves on the boards of the Exchange Club, the Urban Art Commission, and RISE Foundation. She has been an active volunteer and member of the Memphis Rotary Club, the Junior League of Memphis, the St. Mary’s Parents’ Association Board, and has served as Lower School Grade Coordinator. Joelle is a New Memphis Institute Fellow and was named a “Top 40 Under 40” by the Memphis Business Journal. She earned her BA from Dartmouth College and her MBA from Vanderbilt University, Owen Graduate School of Management. Joelle has two daughters at St. Mary’s, Wallis, a sixth grader and Evans, a fourth grader.



### TED DAVIS

Ted is President and CEO of Active Implants, LLC. He serves as a deacon at Second Presbyterian Church, volunteers as a youth lacrosse coach with both Buzzards and No Excuse, and is a St. Mary’s capital campaign volunteer. He received his BE in Biomedical Engineering from Vanderbilt University and his MBA in Finance, Economics, Healthcare from Northwestern University, Kellogg School of Management. Ted and his wife, Lyle, have two daughters who attend St. Mary’s, Mason, a junior, and Carrington, a freshman, and a son Tucker.



### MARY KATHERINE STOUT

Mary Katherine is a community volunteer who serves on the board of Hope House and chairs the Gobble Gear Committee of the St. Mary's Parents Association. She also volunteers at Second Presbyterian Church and previously served on the boards of Memphis Leadership Foundation and Su Casa Family Ministries. Mary Katherine earned her BBA from the University of Mississippi and her JD from Washington and Lee University. Mary Katherine and her husband, Elmer, have a daughter, Sarah Taylor, who is a second grader at St. Mary's.



### MARIE DOWLING

*President, Parents Association*

Marie volunteers in the community, serving on the boards of the Maternal League of Memphis, the White Station High School Library/Learning Center Initiative, and Church of Holy Communion Book It 5K. She has held a variety of positions in the parents associations of her children's schools and has been active as a church volunteer. Marie received the 2005 Maternal League Mother of the Year award. She earned her BS in Biology from the University of Memphis and her BS in Physical Therapy from the University of Tennessee Health Science Center. Marie and her husband, David, have three sons, Colin, Jack, and Preston, and a daughter, Amelia, who is a freshman at St. Mary's.



### KATIE ZANONE WEBB '93

*President, Alumnae Association*

Katie is the President of St. Mary's Alumnae Association and has served as the Outstanding Alumna Committee Chair for the past two years. She is an Adjunct Faculty member of Simmons College in Boston, MA. Katie volunteers at Target House and A Step Ahead Foundation, and serves on the board of the University of North Carolina's Alumnae Association. She earned a BA in Psychology from the University of North Carolina and an MS in Social Work from University of Tennessee Health Science Center. Katie is married to Chris and enjoys spending time with her family, traveling, and skiing.

### HALLIE WARD

Hallie is an active community volunteer who has served on the boards of Shelby County Books from Birth and the Junior League of Memphis. She volunteers at Independent Presbyterian Church and coaches soccer at Church of the Holy Communion. She has been honored as a Junior League of Memphis Community Volunteer of the Year, and she was inducted into the Rhodes College Athletic Hall of Fame twice--as an individual and as a member of the women's soccer team. Hallie earned her BA from Rhodes College, where she majored in History and received her teaching credentials. Hallie and her husband Jason have a daughter, McCall, a sixth grader at St. Mary's and a son, Phillip.

## 2018-2019 NEW FACULTY AND STAFF



**Front row:** Hannah Uzcategui (JK Teacher), Cayley Lawhon (First Grade Teacher), Kathy Brewster (SK Teacher), Rachel Drozinski (SK Teacher), Jessica Seebeck (Mind and Body Wellness Instructor), Megan Ryan (US English Teacher), Raquel Capocaccia (Director of Auxiliary Programs), Angie Cooley (MS English Teacher), Kristen Hehn (Third Grade Teacher)  
**Back row:** Sarah Horton (SMP Teacher), Shelley Bell (EC Learning Specialist), Kendall Hennessy '10 (Advancement Assistant), John Nichols (US Science Teacher), Anna Bess Sorin (US Science Teacher), Rebel Marzec (MS Learning Specialist), and Andrea Stackpole (MS Counselor)  
Not pictured: Carrie Ruhland

## COMMUNITY VOICES

**After the new faculty and staff members had been here for several months, we asked for their impressions of St. Mary's. The following are some of their responses.**

### **In what way is St. Mary's different from where you taught previously?**

I taught at a public school for three years. The culture at St. Mary's is completely different in terms of family engagement, and the focus on empowering every girl to reach her individual potential is unparalleled.

– **Kendall Hennessy '10**

St. Mary's has grown in our ability to help all learners. It is an exciting time to be here!

– **Carrie Ruhland**

### **Do you believe that the girls act/learn/develop differently without boys in the classroom?**

Absolutely! I always tell people the most significant benefit of teaching all girls is that their brains are "hard-wired" together! Once the brainstorming starts in the classroom, it rapidly evolves into incredibly creative ideas. The girls are free to explore and express themselves without boundaries.

– **Carrie Ruhland**

Yes, I think girls who are able to learn and grow without boys around have more confidence in themselves and their abilities.

– **Raquel Capocaccia**

What is/has been your favorite aspect of teaching at St. Mary's?

My favorite part of teaching at St. Mary's is the family feel that it has. Everyone, including faculty and staff, parents, and students, is welcoming. The whole community truly cares for one another.

– Kristen Hehn

I am inspired by my students' desire to reach their potential and do well in all their endeavors— both school work and extracurriculars. Apart from their studies, these girls have a myriad of talents which impress me, from fencing to horseback riding competitions to acting.

– Meg Ryan

I love getting to know the students and seeing thoughtful and respectful learning.

– Andrea Stackpole

Getting to engage young women with science that is relevant to their lives and witnessing the enthusiasm they bring to learning excites me daily.

– Anna Bess Sorin

Is your approach to teaching different in an all-girls environment?

Absolutely! We are able to do more hands-on activities and group work, which allows the girls to be in charge of their learning. Since they enjoy being in control of the way that they learn, they are able to come up with solutions and strategies that work best for them. I am able to facilitate the girls' learning without giving them only one or two ways to come up with a solution.

– Kristen Hehn

In some ways yes. The girls here seem to have more tenacity with classroom assignments and work well both in groups or independently.

– Cayley Lawhon

I don't believe so, no. I believe I change my teaching style based on the academic and emotional needs of the individual learner, which I don't see as inherently tied to the student's gender. Although I think it's easy to think a more sensitive/emotive approach should be honed in an all girl environment, I think this should be true of teaching and mentorship in all male learning environments, and coed environments, as well.

– John Nichols

Is there anything at St. Mary's that has surprised you?

The faculty and staff here at St Mary's are so good at their jobs and are a tremendous support.

– Cayley Lawhon

I love how excited students get about reading and literature.

–Meg Ryan

I was surprised by how open and accommodating the staff and students are.

– Andrea Stackpole

The way the girls treat each other and seem to truly care for and respect each other is very nice to see.

– Anna Bess Sorin

The “end product” of the Upper School students is amazing. Those girls are smart, curious, confident, respectful, and kind.

– Raquel Cappoccacia

Despite being academically rigorous, I have been pleasantly surprised by how laid back the St. Mary's culture is, as well. I feel like students are afforded the opportunity to be comfortable and flexible with their schedules and working styles. I feel like they have a great deal of agency over how they learn and master new concepts.

– John Nichols

Do you have other comments? Is there anything else you would like to tell us?

I am excited to see the role of mental health expand in this school and feel proud to be a part of it. St. Mary's is truly on the cutting edge of bringing mindfulness and yoga into our school. I predict that many schools in the Memphis area will be following suit, and I think we should all be proud of St. Mary's constant pursuit to enhance the girls' minds, bodies, and souls.

– Jessica Seebeck

I am so happy to be here and can truthfully say that I love my job!

– Cayley Lawhon



*Lindsey Fields, Pooja Talati, Emily Richards, Maddie Jenks, Joy Jackson, Sophia Meibohm, Gabby Perez, Arabella McGowan, and Kennedy Hamblen have been recognized by the National Merit Scholarship Program.*

# Seniors of Merit

**Congratulations to the nine St. Mary's seniors** who have been recognized by the National Merit Scholarship Program as Finalists and Commended Students. Three seniors are Finalists—Maddie Jenks, Gabby Perez, and Emily Richards. Commended Students are Lindsey Fields, Kennedy Hamblen, Joy Jackson, Arabella McGowan, Sophia Meibohm, and Pooja Talati.

Each year, approximately 1.6 million students enter the National Merit Scholarship Competition by taking the PSAT as juniors. Of the 1.6 million students, about 15,000 (or less than 1%) are recognized as National Merit Finalists and another 34,000 are recognized as National Merit Commended Students. For the last ten years, an average of 22% of St. Mary's seniors have been recognized as Finalists, Semifinalists, or Commended Students.



*National Merit Semi-Finalists: Maddie Jenks, Gabby Perez, Emily Richards*

# Generations of Jensens

By Larry Jensen

Let me tell you about a recent moment of personal revelation. Out of the corner of my eye at my daughter's house, I noticed an iconic blue St. Mary's book bag hanging on a doorknob. I wondered where in the world Grace had found her book bag from years ago. Quickly, I realized the book bag was not Grace's, which I remembered being well-worn. The bag on the doorknob looked bright blue and brand new. And then I concluded the bag was not Grace's, but belonged to my granddaughter, Mary Knight, who is now in JK at St. Mary's.

For many reasons the book bag on the doorknob sparked good memories of our years at St. Mary's with our daughters, Grace Jensen Knight '05 and Mary Jensen Nease '10. Likewise, the book bag prompts me also to think of my hopes and dreams for our three granddaughters—Mary Knight '32, Lila Jensen '34, and Nora Nease. It seems to be a foregone conclusion that St. Mary's is the best option for the next generation of girls in our family. I do find it interesting and affirming that our daughters and daughter-in-law, Kathyne Jensen, want very much for their daughters to attend St. Mary's, and my wife, Leesa, and I agree with them.

There are several reasons why St. Mary's was good for our daughters and why we believe the same will be true for our granddaughters. When I recall scrambling to pay tuitions, driving daily carpool, participating in field day, attending Daddy-Daughter Donut Day, and then graduations, I recall the greater joy brought to our family as we watched

to prepare our daughters. Academics were, of course, excellent, and extracurricular activities abundant.

From their St. Mary's experiences, I would offer several noteworthy additional outcomes in their lives, common to both of them and to many St. Mary's graduates. First, Grace and Mary developed life-long friendships with classmates that support,

encourage, and stand with them today as they raise their families and pursue their interests. I watch as they organize and execute with excellence. They think critically and analyze well. They can write and express themselves privately and publicly. They value others. They appreciate community and diversity. They are confident. They are young ladies of character and conviction.

They have become women of distinction and leadership.

St. Mary's was a dynamic and steady influence in their growth and development. I am grateful for many benefits, qualities, and characteristics in my grown daughters. I am excited for our granddaughters to be at St. Mary's. I am eager once again to be engaged at St. Mary's—now as a grandparent. Leesa and I owe a debt of gratitude, and we offer our thanks to all the administration, teachers, and staff for all you have done for our family and will continue to do.



*Leesa and Larry Jensen with their daughters Grace Jensen Knight '05 and Mary Jensen Nease '10 and granddaughters Mary Knight '32, Lila Jensen '34, and Nora Nease*

our girls holistically grow into mature young ladies. We are deeply grateful for what Grace and Mary gained as students, which has helped to prepare them for life. We are, likewise, grateful for the contribution of our church, their youth group at church, and those individuals that mentored them in their faith and following of Jesus.

Both daughters attended St. Mary's from Junior Kindergarten through 12<sup>th</sup> grade. Looking back, I can remember many intentional academic lessons and serendipitous opportunities which helped



## Grandparents Day

Every year on the Tuesday before Thanksgiving, the students in Senior Kindergarten and 4th grade welcome their grandparents and special friends to campus for Grandparents Day. This year, the program focused on something integral and unique to St. Mary's — The Bridge to Caring, our character education program designed to ensure that St. Mary's is meeting the spiritual and emotional needs of our students. Woven throughout the program were the value songs girls learn starting in Early Childhood and continue to sing throughout Lower School.

The Bridge to Caring is made up of eight essential values that guide our morning meetings and are the topics of conversations and stories in Kindergarten. They guide our chapel talks and are the foundation for talking with Lower School students about their choices. They shape how we interact with each other as a community and prepare our girls for the robust Honor Code and community service that they will enjoy in six through twelfth grades. Grandparents and special friends loved seeing and hearing this unique way that St. Mary's cares for girls of every age and teaches them to care for one another.



## Halloween Bazaar

The Halloween Bazaar, for decades a fixture in Barth Gymnasium, this year was held for the first time in Willmott Gym. The haunted house, a perennial favorite put on by the Senior Class, was held in the basement of Moss Hall.

## Christmas Pageant

The Christmas Pageant has been a part of St. Mary's since the late 19th century when the School was located next to St. Mary's Cathedral on Poplar Avenue. This year, 26 seniors enacted the tableaux vivants and quietly reminisced as the songs they remembered were performed by the angelic choir of 2nd and 3rd graders. This beautiful and inspirational service marks the beginning of the Christmas season and remains our oldest and most cherished tradition.

# CAMPUS NEWS

## Robotics, the Sport of STEM

St. Mary's held its first VEX IQ Challenge Tournament in December, thanks to Lower School Science teacher Meagan Michael. The 32 competing teams came from coed elementary and middle schools in Piperton, Medina, Collierville, and Memphis, with participants ranging from 3rd to 8th grade. St. Mary's was the only all girls' school represented. VEX robotics is not solely about building robots. It involves design, writing, public speaking, problem solving, and teamwork. "I told the girls that robotics is a new sport," said Michael.



## St. Mary's Community Fund

To celebrate National Philanthropy Day, the Association of Fundraising Professionals Memphis Chapter presented awards to eight organizations and individuals in recognition of their service to the Memphis community. This year's recipient of the Youth In Philanthropy Group Award was the St. Mary's Community Fund (SMCF) which was recognized as "a leadership role model for other youth in Memphis, promoting philanthropy and encouraging community involvement among young people."

SMCF is a student-run organization that raises money from student fundraisers and personal solicitations and awards grants to agencies benefitting Mid South children. Now celebrating its 20th year, SMCF has granted more than \$500,000 to forty local children's organizations.

St. Mary's was well represented at the award luncheon. The SMCF was recognized, the Chamber Ensemble performed an *a cappella* rendition of "Will the Circle Be Unbroken," and distinguished alumna **Kathy Buckman Gibson '80** and her husband J.W. were presented the "Outstanding Volunteer Fundraiser" award, recognizing their commitment to and love for the Memphis Community.



## Middle School Blue and White Houses

Blue and White, a St. Mary's tradition from the past, has been revived and is in full swing in the Middle School. Through activities and competitions, girls make connections with each other, build school spirit, and have fun. In addition to being assigned to either the Blue or the White team, each girl is a member of one of 12 houses (see names below), with 8th graders in the houses rotating as leaders. The girls enjoy being in these smaller groups, building relationships across grades, and planning their competitions. During first semester, Turkey Tide won the Halloween costume contest, and each house took turns selling donuts to raise money for Kingsbury Elementary and Binghampton Christian Academy (our 7th grade service schools.)

- Blue Moonstones • Turkey Tide • Blue Bells • Snooze Crew
- Super Nova • MEMHouse • Everest • Blizzards • The Lighthouse
- Snyffindor • COLD • Explorers



## White Christmas

*White Christmas* tapped onto the stage in late November under the direction of Jenny Madden, Director of Plays, and the music direction of Julie Millen, Upper School Performing Arts Teacher. The cast of twenty-four starred St. Mary's Upper School girls and boys from Arlington High School, Briarcrest Christian School, Christian Brothers High School, Memphis University School, and White Station High School. The show was entered in the Orpheum Theatre's High School Musical Theatre Awards which will be held in May 2019.

*"SMS theatre is about overcoming obstacles and working with what we have. It is about finding the best way to handle a situation in a limited amount of time. Mostly, SMS theatre is about the people who make it possible. When I was little, I never knew how many people it took to put on a show. Now I know that there is a place for anyone with any talent in the theatre and that everyone is able to contribute something of value to every show."*

Caroline Gramm '21

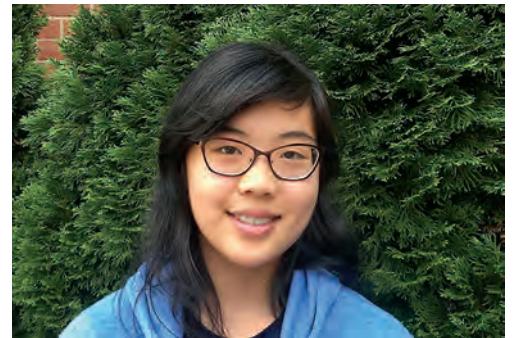


## Willy Wonka

The Lower School play, *Willy Wonka* featured the talents of 52 4th and 5th graders. Under the direction of Jenny Madden, Director of Plays, and music direction of Nancy Miller, Lower School Music Teacher, the cast and crew brought Roald Dahl's book to life in Rose Theater. The Upper School Performing Arts class assisted with direction, choreography, and backstage management.

*"My most memorable moment from the Lower School Play was on opening night watching the Oompa Loompas do their dance for the first time. It was so cool to be able to watch my choreography be performed for people."*

Evie Fowler '21



## MIT Math Competition: Victoria Ouyang '20

In September, **Victoria Ouyang** attended Massachusetts Institute of Technology's prestigious Math Prize for Girls contest and received an Honorable Mention, recognizing her as one of the nation's top math students. The goal of the Math Prize for Girls is to encourage top female students to become leaders in science and math and to promote equity in STEM professions. The single-day annual contest is open to female high school students from the United States and Canada who have attained a qualifying score on the American Mathematics Competitions Exams. Every year, more than 300,000 students participate in the exams, and approximately 300 girls are selected for the competition in Cambridge, Massachusetts. For the past two years, Victoria has earned the top female score in Tennessee on the qualifying exam.

# Summer

at ST. MARY'S

REGISTER  
NOW!



camps | academics | college prep | athletics | arts | leadership | community

FOR GIRLS PRE-K THROUGH 12 & FOR BOYS PK THROUGH SK

[www.stmarysschool.org](http://www.stmarysschool.org) • (901) 537-1415

# ST. MARY'S

## ATHLETICS



### Cross Country

The inaugural season of Lower School Cross Country was a huge success. The team was made up of 30 girls in grades 3 through 5. St. Mary's placed in the top three at each meet. The season ended with St. Mary's placing 4th out of 17 teams and qualifying for the state championship meet.

Middle School Cross Country finished the season with a 4th place finish in the regional meet.

Upper School Cross Country qualified for state after a 3rd place finish at Regionals where nearly every runner set a personal best.

### Golf

Middle School Golf finished the year with a 3rd place finish in the regional match. The team consistently improved throughout the season. **Addie Dombroski** and **Elizabeth Wen** each scored a hole-in-one!

Upper School Golf qualified for the state tournament for the 9th consecutive year. This year, St. Mary's placed 6th, while Senior **Megan Tang** placed 2nd overall. Megan Tang was also nominated for *The Commercial Appeal's* Girls Golf Athlete of the Year.



### Soccer

Middle School fielded two teams, Blue and White, both of which showed great enthusiasm, improvement, and promise for the future of St. Mary's soccer.

After graduating thirteen seniors, the young St. Mary's varsity team finished 3-10-3 with two of those wins against Hutchison and St. George's and four games determined by one goal. Freshman **Carrington Davis** was named Memphis Soccer Player of the Week in August and, along with **Merrill Culpepper** and **Taylor Gallik**, was named to the All-Region team.

# ST. MARY'S

## ATHLETICS



### Trap

In July, the St. Mary's trap team competed at the Scholastic Clay Target Program National Championship in Columbus, Ohio. The Turkeys scored higher than any other varsity ladies team in the country, with **Emily Ferguson** setting a new school record recording 98/100, for a total of 195/200. The other top varsity scorers were **Lauren Davis**, **Sophie Morrow**, **Emily Richards**, and **Sidney Seale**.

### Volleyball

Both 7th and 8th grade volleyball teams finished as semi-finalists in the Shelby League Tournament. Upper School Volleyball won the Silver Division Championship at the Collierville Memorial Classic. **Arabella McGowan**, **Lauren Carr**, **Madison Carr**, and **Cecilia Boswell** were named to the All-Region volleyball team.



### Megan Tang Signs to play Golf at University of Illinois at Chicago

In November, **Megan Tang '19** signed to play golf at the University of Illinois at Chicago. Megan has accomplished much during her golf career at St. Mary's. In eighth grade, she finished seventh in the state of Tennessee. As a freshman, in a sudden death playoff at regionals, she won on the second hole. During her sophomore year, Megan played in a pro-am at Pebble Beach, placed third at state, and assisted St. Mary's in winning the state championship. She has led the golf team to state year-after-year and continues to volunteer her time with the Middle School golf team. She is a member of the National Beta Club, the M Club, the Student Council Representative for Wind Ensemble, and Co-President of the Diversity Club.

## Dianne Elizabeth Hill '75

by Penny Spiegelman Register-Shaw '75

The task of writing about Dianne Elizabeth Hill '75 in a way that captures her joy in living, her loving nature, and her bravery should have been easy. Dianne was a Dickensian character, a larger than life raconteur, and she stood 5'10" in her bare feet. There are literally thousands of stories that set Dianne apart from, and slightly above, the crowd (pun most definitely intended)! Dianne threw her prodigious energy into everything she did — pet ownership (cats and dogs), eating ice cream, gardening, and cheering on the University of Memphis Tigers. She had a self-deprecating humor as evidenced by her proud standing as an Officer in the Omega Club, our answer to the Beta Club. Dianne laughed heartily, instigated many a daring adventure, and transcended the cliques in our class by refusing to notice their existence. As one of our classmates, Mary Belcher Page '75, put it recently "Dianne never walked, she floated".

A public school teacher in Memphis, Dianne often bought her students food, clothes, and supplies from her own wages. At what should have been the lowest point in her life, the weeks and months after she was diagnosed with cancer, Dianne's chief concerns were for the comfort of her sons, Andrew and Justin, her mother, Rose, and her cocker spaniel, Pookie. She brought warm blankets to chemo for the other patients and kept them highly entertained with a stream of good-natured patter. She helped create a calorie-dense shepherds pie recipe to serve to the city's homeless population that was replicated by AIDS/HIV charities. When

she passed away at age 53 in 2011, she donated her body to the University of Tennessee for medical research. It's safe to say, whatever Dianne had, she shared freely.

The class of 1975 raised \$50,000 to endow the Dianne Hill Scholarship fund for financial assistance and the entire class has contributed to the Annual Fund for the past 6 years in tribute to Dianne.



Class of 1975: Melanie Triplett Jones, Nora Wingfield Tyson, and Susan Roberts Colpitts



Class of 1975: Angie Rose, Jill Jemison Margolin, Jana Fletcher Markowitz, and Lisa Francisco Abitz



Class of 1975: Gay Patterson, Betsy Olim, Penny Spiegelman Register-Shaw, Judy Harrison, Watty Brooks Hall, and Mary Belcher Page

# ALUMNAE



Heather Pearson Chauhan '91 and Margaret Jones Fraser '83 visit with seniors at the College Boot Camp Interview Day.



Mackenzie Fittes '19 and Lisa Ansley Clapper '00



Alumnae interviewers: Amy Reinhardt Robinson '00, Alex Fountain '10, and Lynn Bledsoe Buhler '67

## Elizabeth Summitt Gordon '07 Lights Up Young Alumnae Giving Society

*By Courtney Shove '96*

Elizabeth is a St. Mary's "lifer" in more ways than one. She attended St. Mary's from junior kindergarten through grade 12 and eagerly joined the St. Mary's Alumnae Board when asked, just two years after graduating from Rhodes College in 2011. Most recently, Elizabeth, who works as a managing director and an investment advisor at Green Square Capital, became the chair of the Luminary Leadership Circle (LLC), an Annual Fund giving society for the Classes of 2000 through 2014.



Elizabeth Summitt Gordon '07

With giving commitments that gradually increase each year, LLC members are able to support St. Mary's in meaningful ways and get to know other young alums at special events planned just for them. In its second year, the LLC is already 36 members strong, and Elizabeth hopes to inspire more "luminaries" in the coming months. "St. Mary's offers a monthly auto-debit, so if you give \$100 a year, it's not even \$10 a month," she said.

"Honestly, I credit St. Mary's with having the largest impact on my life and with where I am today," Elizabeth said. "The reason I continue to give to the school is because I think it is so important for young women to have the level of education and the environment that St. Mary's offers."



Luminary Leadership Circle co-chairs: Whitney Baer Foster '00, Lizzie Gill '03, and Elizabeth Summitt Gordon '07  
Not pictured: Lucy Wade Shapiro '11

# ALUMNAE



## Alumnae Board 2018-19

B: Courtney Shove '96, Gigi Gould '70, Katie Broer Parr '98, Amina Dilawari '95, Lauran Glassman Stimac '00  
M: Elizabeth Simpson Alrtuz '82, Libby Wetter Witherington '68, Kate Metcalf Sullivan '01, Anna Snyder Rojas '01  
F: Erica Evans '05, Lisa Bratton Chiles '93, President Katie Zanone Webb '93, Jan Valentine Wiygul '76, Abby Yandell Talbot '03, Madge Logan Deacon '69, and Elizabeth Summitt Gordon '07



Members of the Class of 1983 gather to hear Alumnae Chapel speaker Cissy Bruce Jackson: Susan McCloy Crosby, Brandon Garrott Morrison, Cissy, Allison Wellford Parker, and Margaret Jones Fraser.



Alumnae Weekend Chair Katie Garrett Harris '00 with Assistant Chair Laurin Maddux '98



Chancey Thompson, Jenny Maddux Stenberg '01, Penny Bower, and Julia Chesney McDonald '96



Sarah Peeples Hodges '73, Lisa Mulrooney Coombs '95, Beth Brown Dunn '79 attend Alumnae Book Club.

## ALUMNAE



Alumnae mothers and grandmothers breakfast co-hostesses: Susan Hearn Morgan '90, Katherine Dudley Gray '94, Kelly Buckner Dallas '99, and Amy Reinhardt Robinson '00



A three generation family: Dorothy Holt '33, Lee Davidson Holt '95 and Punk Ayccock Davidson '57



Alumnae mothers and grandmothers breakfast: Punk Ayccock Davidson '57, Lee Davidson Holt '95, Kelly Buckner Dallas '99, and Alexia Fulgham Crump '93



Alumnae receive tips at the Smart Phone 101 training session from the Beak Squad, a group of Upper School technology students.

### Young Alumnae Holiday Party



Class of 2013: B: Catherine Moore, Alex Fila, Anna Peeler, Anna Stukenborg, Olivia Summitt. F: Claire Fogarty, Tory Whartenby and Anna Utlej



Class of 2014: B: Haley Steinman, Ayanna Martin, Gabrielle Taylor, Rosemary Dunn, and Camille Cowart. F: Mimi Billings, Molly Hanna, and Bailey Archer



Class of 2018: Allison Hesselberg, Chesley Chen, Lexi Becker, Maryanna Couloubaritsis, and Chaplain Katherine McQuiston Bush '93

## CLASS NOTES

1964

Phyllis Koller Wills

**N**ancy Whitman Manire's granddaughter Mallory Macdonald '18 graduated from St. Mary's in May and will be attending TCU in Ft. Worth. Nancy spent 2 weeks in England during the summer enjoying walks around Bath and London. She still works 7 hours a week, spends a lot of time in the garden and continues to ride. **Betsy Springfield Lindstrom** and husband David enjoyed a week in London and a two-week river cruise from Amsterdam to Budapest. The view of historic sites from the water and leisurely travel was very appealing. **Ainslie Pryor Todd** went on a garden tour to Italy in June with Dixon Gallery and Garden. She visited Venice, Bellagio, Lake Como and Tuscany where she stayed in an old Castillo. Afterwards she went to Florence for four days to see museums and then to Sienna for a week of Italian classes. She is auditing elementary Italian at the University of Memphis where the students are so young! **Carol Sue Cato Keathley** continues a 30+ career in the investment business as Branch Manager/Managing Director with Raymond James. Her daughter and her family live close by and she enjoys being a part of her grandchildren's lives. She rings hand bells in the choir at the Presbyterian church and volunteers with an organization providing food for families in need. She writes she is "thankful for the St. Mary's education we all had; it gave us the skills, discipline, and work ethic to have fulfilling

lives." **Ann Humphreys Copp** divorced after 42 years and has met a man with whom she enjoys traveling since her retirement 6 months ago. They went cycling in Italy, visited her sister Janie in Nova Scotia and are going to Israel in October. Her mother, 99, still lives at home and Ann sees her every day. **Phyllis Koller Wills** and husband sold their house on Kiawah Island after 25 years of a lovely life there. They are now closer to Charleston in a condo and looking forward to a simpler life. Phyllis audited Chinese literature at the College of Charleston this spring and is looking forward to more courses. They still summer at their home in France and went on a Mediterranean cruise in September.

1966

Diane Taylor Newton

**S**t. Mary's Class of 1966 met in Atlanta for their 52nd reunion. Those able to come included **Minna Thompson Glenn, Foxy von Lackum Walker, Ree Wilson Cantrell, Charlotte Dabbs Algood, Betty Abbott, Julia Laney Clarke, and Cissy Lansing Moriarty**. (40% of the class was represented! A high percentage as Cissy's husband, Charles, liked to point out.) We enjoyed trips to Gibbs Gardens and the Atlanta Botanical Garden. Supper at Cissy's and brunch at Betty's provided quiet times to reconnect. A highlight was the 70th birthday celebration for Foxy! Our finale included worship at Alpharetta Presbyterian Church with a sermon on Earth Day, a fitting end to a weekend of Gardens.

Minna and Charlotte enjoyed the beautiful blooming over the top snowball viburnum. Mary Lawrence felt more appreciation for her blooming plants and birds flocking to her little sanctuary. **Diane Taylor Newton** was laid up with cervical spinal surgery, but she was there in spirit. Her granddaughter Keith Ellis Prest '18 graduated from SMS and is attending University of South Carolina. I have recently moved back to my old stomping grounds in Germantown. Ed and I visit our Wildlife Manor horse farm on weekends.

1968

Jan Cone Davis

**W**ell, ladies, I have good news and bad news. First of all, the good news. Our 50th class Reunion was a big success. Out of our class of 22, we heard from 21 classmates. Sixteen classmates were able to come to at least one event. We missed you, Jenny, Caroline, Carolyn, Florri, and Sandy. Thanks to **Ann Gordon McCormack** for having all us girls and spouses for a delicious cocktail supper in her beautiful home. We had a barbecue dinner on the second night at my house. It's amazing how when we get together for a reunion the conversation just continues as if no time has passed from the last reunion. The bad news is ...there is not much news. When I emailed a request for news, Hank and I were leaving on a cruise to eastern Canada and northeastern USA. I know some of you were doing some traveling, so please tell us about it next time. **Holly Rogers** is still working full time.



Patty Ozier Riffel '63 with husband Kirby at San Marco in Venice, Italy



Patti Person Ray '65 works with a student at the College Boot Camp Interview Day.



Friends from the Class of 1974: Beth Williford Carson-Wallace, Chris Cowan Norris and Cindi Acree Marshall

## CLASS NOTES

She is active in her church and is looking forward to the visit of the Presiding Bishop of the Episcopal Church in her area of Florida. They will be celebrating the 50th year of the existence of that diocese. Holly's mother is turning 98! How wonderful! Much love to all of my dear friends in the Class of '68.

1970

Cristina Brescia Michta

**Susan Hall Wilson** and husband John Charles report that life is nonstop with two grandchildren- Sam Harris, 3, and Charlotte, 1- living just three minutes away. In addition to enjoying family, Susan and John Charles love teaching second graders at church. **Gigi Gould** is happy and grateful to be back home at St. Mary's working as Director of Alumnae after working for Gould's Academy as financial aid administrator for three years. She missed all of the incredible alums that she gets to meet and work with. Her absolute favorite pastime is spending time with her 3 grandchildren: Lily (3 years), William (18 months), and Phillips (15 months). **Linda Stratton Hancock** is still enjoying retirement. She and husband Cary are looking forward to many trips to Fairhope, Ala. where their daughter Holly and family moved. Their children, Nathan, and Hannah are in 5th grade and pre-Kindergarten, respectively. They also spend time in Memphis with grandson Luke who is almost two, church work, travel (including trips to Helen, Ga. and St. Augustine, Fla.). Every day is a blessing! **Jill Tanner Flournoy** reports that she fears her life is boring, but also says that perhaps at this age boring is not all bad! She works with her husband Tom in their business Tom's Tiny Kitchen, producing two varieties of pimento cheese and three of queso. They are currently in about 135 stores and will increase that with the addition of 150 Wal-Mart stores in 2019. Jill enjoys her 7-year-old grandson in Memphis and travels to California as often as possible to visit her son. **Denise DuBois Taylor** and husband Sledge are in wedding-planning mode. Their son Will and Rachel Asa Pedersen of Far Hills, N.J. plan to marry in

New Jersey in the summer of 2019. Will and Rachel met as graduate students at Brown University. Rachel now teaches high school physics and chemistry at Milton Academy. Will continues his work as a researcher. He is a Ph.D. candidate in astrophysics. **Bette Gordon** is happy to report that she has retired. She misses her paycheck but loves having more time to spend with her grandson. She loves having more free time period! She hears from **Ann Hathorn Gonzales** on occasion and reports that Ann is still one of the nicest, wittiest, and smartest people on the planet (and she recommends good books to read). Your loyal secretary continues to love life in the beautiful Bavarian Alps. I enjoy running and biking in the mountains, Bible study, volunteering at a local German School and traveling. Andrew enjoys his work as Dean of the George C. Marshall Center for Security Studies. The Marshall Center is a partnership between the USA and German Departments of Defense. Chelsea is finishing her PhD at Cambridge and preparing for the LSAT exam in hopes of attending law school in the fall of 2019. We invite you all to visit!

1972

Christine Mayer Todd

**Meg Jemison Bartlett** is excited about great things happening at Home Place Pastures. Their son Marshall raises the best pork, lamb, beef, and goat anywhere, even expanding into grass fed beef. Their website is [www.homeplace-pastures.com](http://www.homeplace-pastures.com); try some of their Rosemary Garlic Red Wine Deer Sausage. In our 60s lots of SMS 72'ers have discovered the joy of retail. **Hunter Haizlip Oppenheimer** is excited about her new job with the opening of Clara Bell's, a new shop in midtown next door to Café 1912. You can still meet our class's standup comedian, **Jane Gordon Simmons**, at Vineyard Vines where she has ditched her beautifully tailored black, cream, and taupe for shocking pink and alarming blue. Also Jane is a wonderful consultant about wardrobes for your upcoming weddings. **Ashley Moore Remmers** and husband John went on a ten day trip with Albuquerque Opera to enjoy opera festivals

all over Italy. **Anne Remmers Phillips** and Ashley are headed for Fall Break with Anne's mom who lives in Santa Rosa Beach enjoying four generations of strong, beautiful women. Ashley is also chairing Teach for America Memphis Advisory Board and just hosted 50 for dinner at her house. I work part time at Calvary Episcopal Church in Outreach. Since Work Local is thriving, I'm now focused on exploring options for emergency shelter for single women. Remember Work Local? They started two days a week taking homeless and panhandling individuals to clean blighted areas and now have expanded to 7 days a week. We all want to know what is going on with you so keep those cards and letters coming!

1976

Allison Brown Coates

**Josie McNeely Walker** and her family are so excited! Her daughter, Jessie Walker Wiley '04 and her husband, Chris, have a beautiful daughter, Jane McKenna Wiley! She was born on March 5th. I bet that sweet baby has not been put down yet! Jessie is the Annual Campaign Director for the YMCA of Memphis and Mid-South. **Kim Brown Mullins** helped coach the Turkeys mock trial team to victory! The team was the Shelby County Champion and the 2nd place winner in the TN State Tournament. While working and coaching, Kim headed up Team Carson, too! Carson '12 married Spencer Pigg on May 27th. So many of Carson's SMS friends were on hand to celebrate! Carson and Spencer will continue living and working in Washington, D.C. Many blessings! Once again, **Bettina West Hart** rode in honor of Lise, a little girl, Callie, and a family member. She put on her helmet and rode her bicycle in the Great Cycle Challenge for the Children's Cancer Research Fund in June. We were with you in spirit, Bettina! **Virginia Donelson Curry** worked very hard organizing for summer life on the mountain. As you may remember, she is the program director at the Assembly in Monteagle. Our own **Wyeth Outlan Burgess** was a guest lecturer at the Monteagle Sunday School Assembly in August. After her wonderful speech in chapel last year, Virginia grabbed

## CLASS NOTES

Wyeth for their program. Her lecture title is: “Filly, Fawn and Falcon: A Literary Look at Coming of Age”. **Robbie Loveless Archer** wants to thank everyone for the sweet thoughts and prayers for her family on the loss of her sweet mama. A picture from our last reunion popped up on my Facebook feed the other day. My feelings were all over the place as I looked at the picture. I saw smiling friends standing on the stairs at the Governor’s Mansion. I saw a friend’s face that we will see again one day in heaven, a friend who recently lost her mom, a friend who has a beautiful new grandchild, a friend who has a child getting married and a friend who has won the battle of an illness. Each one of us has a story behind our smile. Some of the stories we tell, some we do not. I am so thankful that my story has a piece of everyone from our class tucked inside my smile.

1978

Tracy Walko Balton

For those 30+ of us who attended, the reunion gave us a place to relive old memories and the time to create new ones. For those who could not attend, we missed you. Having Mrs. Gill sit with us at Friday Chapel took **Kelley Hoffman Hook** back 40 years in an instant. She felt like she was going to get in trouble at any minute, and knowing Kelley, 4 decades ago, she probably would have. At first, the setting, the old familiar hymns and all those faces that have

not changed in all this time, stirred up some \*78’er emotions. I bravely announced that chapel was not going to affect me because I attend Holy Communion occasionally. But it was not just the place. It felt like we had gone back 40 years. And sure enough, by the time we ended chapel, by singing “Day by Day”, tears began to roll. But I was not alone. **Lisa Francis Turner** enjoyed teasing me over that one! As **Jekka Ashman Pinckney** noted, we all forget how sweet female-only voices singing can be. As **Kate Wellford Gould** said, the Friday girls’ night at **Sara Davidson Wellford’s** is always the best. She loved connecting with everyone! At first, history just repeated itself, as old groups of friends enjoyed catching up. Then others, who in high school rarely spoke, seemed to be making up for lost time. Kelley was amused just watching the night unfold. Poring over old annuals, everyone had fun trying to figure out the “...’s”. That brought back lots of good memories, and maybe some inaccurate ones, but oh well. It was fun. **Laura Vookles** enjoyed deep conversations with people she maybe didn’t connect with in school, or at least not in the same way. On a long walk with **Louise Osborne Lauber**, she passed by **Margaret Mason’s** old house, and shared both happy and sad memories of her. Louise and Kelley unexpectedly flew from Chicago and back home again on the same flights. It was then that discovered that they have lived very close to each other for many years. Louise also attended Laura’s performance at the National Poetry Slam in Chicago recently. **Carese Clarke Bott** and precious daughter

Katie arrived with their matching radiant smiles. “While our lives have taken such diverse paths, we are still St Mary’s girls and \*78’ers”, Carese said as she loved every single moment of the weekend. And Katie actually seemed to enjoy hanging out with us! **Shelia Davis** gave Carese a bumper sticker – “Show your mind, not your behind.” This now sits prominently in

her classroom and she quotes it every day. She stayed with **Kathy Daniel Patterson**, and together they created their own slumber party, just like in high school. The tale of “Headbone Soup” will keep **Sunita Sheth** laughing for a while. Sorry, I guess you had to be there. She enjoyed sharing memories of some we lost, like Cynthia Pitcock. And for those who are not in Memphis, the reunion gave them an opportunity to reconnect with friends and realize that time is not a distance. As Sunita said, it was as if we never left. **Bailey Johnston Farrin** and **Robin Fretz Rafferty** were a few faces most of us had not seen in a while! Although Robin left SMS in 1975, her short 3 years were memorable ones. Coming to the reunion and connecting with so many classmates, whom she had not seen in 43 years, was “more fun than a barrel of monkeys.” She was so glad she traveled from Nashville to see everyone again. Bailey described to me how she had really missed SMS after leaving to attend boarding school. They both still seemed to feel so much a part of the class, although they left early. The weekend festivities continued with brunch at **Katie Tully Dickinson’s** home. Hanging out in her backyard by the pool, for some reason, took me back to senior year when we used to inhale lunch so we would have more tanning time outside. We all got to see **Andrea Gilliom Anderson** before she and Ben moved to Sarasota, Fla., where they are now renovating a house and soaking up the sunshine. She says visitors are welcome! **Debby Waltz Hayes** plans to take her up on the invitation in the spring, in between baby-sitting grandkids and nursing husband Paul back to health. On behalf of everyone, a very sincere Thank You is in order to our hostesses, Sara and Katie, as well as to Kathy Patterson for her assistance. Your hospitality provided a beautiful setting for us to relive all those good moments from SMS. Laura noted that it seems a benefit of age that we are more inclined to remember the good things. Carese wishes she had appreciated it more as she was living it. Most of us probably could not agree more. Until next time girls! Go \*78’ers!



Wyeth Outlan Burgess '76, Jan Valentine Wiygul '76, Alum Chapel speaker Penny Spiegleman Register-Shaw '75 and Lucy Walt Wepfer '77

## CLASS NOTES



Class of 1980 friends meet up in NYC: Elizabeth Van Brocklin Still, Melissa Bateman, and Margaret McDearman Green.



Class of '82 Lee Anne Johnson Roehm, Jeanie Harwood Sikes, Sally Johnston Spencer, Hallie Peyton, Mary Long Merritt, Sarah Wilmott Cowens, Emily Adams Davis, and Lee Martin Rantzow

1980

Margaret Graham

I always love getting newsletter updates from our classmates, but I was overjoyed to get the news that **Jan Holmes Crosby** has had three major life events this year. Jan retired from her job in Colorado, married Rick Griffith, and moved into a home in Hana, Maui. She describes it as rustic, with an amazing jungle lifestyle. She and Rick are able to travel a lot, and she reports that they caught up with **Rachel Darnell-Heath** at the Tansey Gallery in Santa Fe, N.M. Rachel visited with them and explained glass blowing techniques. Jan and Rick then traveled on to Peru for an extended visit. **Kathy Smith Krieger** recently celebrated 30 years of marriage with her husband Bill, and now her youngest child has gone to college at Mississippi State. She states that her home is much quieter this year! **Melissa Bateman Ryder** writes that her children are scattered across the country: one nearby in New York City, one in Portland, Ore., and the youngest in her last year of college at Middlebury College in Vermont. Melissa and her husband have just moved into a new apartment in NYC and moved Melissa's 93 year old mom in with them; all is going well. Down in Florida, **Kathi Welch Campbell** and husband John have an empty nest as well, as her daughter Rachel has moved on to college at Elon University in N.C. Their

son is still a pilot in the Marine Corps, flying the CH-53 transport helicopter and helping with such events as hurricane relief. Kathi's father passed away this past year, but Mrs. Welch is still in excellent health.

**Sally Mansberg Rosenberg** is following in her mother's footsteps by continuing to teach languages at St. Mary's, including Spanish. Next summer she will be leading a group of SMS girls to Alicante, Spain for an immersion experience. They will live with host families and attend schools. Sally says to come visit her on the Mediterranean coast! (Road trip, road trip...!) **Molly Francis Roberts** retired last year from working at a school in Oxford, Miss. and now helps out with her husband's business, Sporting Life Kennels. You probably remember that Molly always loved dogs, and now she gets to be with puppies all day and make money at the same time! Husband Marty breeds and trains British Labradors for hunting. Thanks for the news, girls!

1982

Elizabeth Simpson Alrutz

Our class lost our dear **Nancy Howard Page Pettersen** on September 25, 2018. Nancy and her husband, Ed, were living in Coconut Grove, Fla. where she died at home. Many of us were lucky to share meals and a few travel adventures with Nancy in recent years and we have been sharing memories as we grieve this

loss. Nancy and that L.L. Bean bag that was as big as she is probably one the whole class remembers. Our thoughts and prayers continue to be with Nancy's family. Our sweet **Elaine Morton** lost her son, James Ginn, in February. Elaine has been very open about James' death from drug overdose with the hope that she can help spread awareness, so others might not have to lose loved ones to drugs. We continue to keep Elaine in our thoughts and prayers. Harriette Mathews Beeson '53, mother of **Meg Beeson Wallace**, died on September 20, and services were held both in Memphis and Ann Arbor. Many of us were glad for a chance to gather and support Meg to celebrate her mom's life. Meg and Jim and their boys traveled to Germany this summer and the boys are now both freshmen—one in college and one in high school. **Carol Gilliland Jordan** reports that she is doing well and is still coordinating a tutoring program for a local nonprofit. "It is a great job, and I love it. I have just moved to downtown Lexington, literally across the street from my office, so my commute doesn't take very long!" Her son, Jeremy, is 25 and lives in Dallas. He is working for Match.com. He enjoys his work, and especially enjoys being closer to his girlfriend. She is in med school there. Her daughter, Annie, just graduated from Vanderbilt in May. Last winter, when Annie was figuring out what to do after graduation, she decided she wanted to go to Argentina for a year and work on her Spanish. About that time, Carol received her St. Mary's magazine (winter 2018) and there

## CLASS NOTES

was a series of short articles about SMS girls who are all over the world. Carol happened to read about Anne Glotzbach Noguer '01, who lives in Buenos Aires. Anne has started Puentes Abroad, an international educational company that connects US college students and recent grads to professional, academic and cultural immersion. It seemed like a perfect match! Carol sent Annie the link and it worked out for her to do an internship through Puentes! She worked for a social service agency for July– September. She also stayed with a family, which she loved. Her internship and home stay are over now but she has found another apartment and another job until she returns to the US next summer. Carol says she loves “how the SMS community is connected all around the world! I will be going to visit Annie during Christmas. Maybe I can meet an SMS Turkey while I am there!” **Sally Johnston Spencer** and husband Warwick spent their summer travel focused on helping their children get settled in their new apartments in their new cities. Their oldest, Rose, has moved to NYC, but still works for WeddingWire.com. Sarah works in San Francisco in finance, and Sam is in his 2nd year at UVA in Charlottesville. The trips may not have been the most fun travel Sally and Warwick have taken and it was really hard work getting them settled. “But all are happy, so that makes it well worth the effort.” Sally is still helping the school from which her children graduated by working in alumni relations. She is also busy helping out some non-profits in Spartanburg. Sally says “once I became an empty-nester I took on too many jobs and roles with too many organizations, which is sure to lead to total disaster. Oh well – it keeps me busy!” I think St. Mary’s surely taught her how to be organized and multi-task, so I suspect she has handling everything beautifully. **Elizabeth Beck Fioravanti** and Mark are now truly empty-nesters... both children have simultaneously flown the Nashville coop! John has started his second year at University of Michigan in Ann Arbor where he continues his study of classical Vocal Performance. Her daughter, Anne, graduated from Belmont University in Nashville in August, and moved to NYC just 5 days later to get settled in her new apartment and begin post-bac work at Columbia University. Anne wants to



Alumnae Chapel speaker Cissy Bruce Jackson '83 with classmate Brandon Garrott Morrison

pursue a Masters in English Lit and teach. Elizabeth reports that both kids traveled to Europe during the summer, and the whole family enjoyed a lovely beach trip together in June. Elizabeth is still working at Harding Academy in Nashville as the HR and Accounting Manager. Mark is the President and CFO at Ryman Hospitality Properties, Inc. where he has worked for many years. Elizabeth says “life is both full and somewhat empty all at the same time, but we are getting used to not only a very quiet house, but also the reality that Anne and her Belmont friends won’t pop through our front door at any moment. Guess we will have to do some international travel now too!!!!” **Camille LeMaster Shaw** and Scott “are officially EMPTY NESTERS!!!!” Isabel is a junior at Brown and is running a marathon and will be working at Goldman Sachs next summer. Audrey has followed in her mother’s footsteps and is a freshman at UVA. Audrey got into an amazing a cappella group called the Hoos in Treble. **Hallie Peyton** and her mom went to Ann Arbor, Mich. in September to visit Meg Beeson Wallace and her family including Meg’s parents, Harriette and Fred. **Catherine Robilio Womack** was a lovely mother of the bride when her daughter, Elizabeth '07, got married in June. Many of us were able to celebrate the happy nuptials. Catherine’s son, Chip, graduated from Ole Miss with an accounting degree. Catherine continues to be our Doctor to many of our classmates and handle many key jobs for the University of Tennessee Health Science Center. **Jeanie**

**Harwood Sikes** hosted several of our classmates in Dallas over the summer. Hallie, **Sarah Willmott Cowens**, **Lee Anne Johnson Roehm**, **Lee Martin Rantzow**, Sally Johnston Spencer, **Emily Adams Davis**, and **Mary Long Merritt** all gathered for a fun weekend of good food, good shopping, and good laughs. My daughter, Liza '15 is now a senior at Northwestern University. She is involved in Seesaw Theatre which is a pretty special group of college students bringing the theatre experience to neurodivergent children. Check it out at seesawtheatre.org. Our son, Jim, started law school at Loyola Chicago and is engaged. He and Katie will marry June 1, 2019 in Wheaton, Illinois and we could not be happier. This year has been a super busy one for me at the law firm and I continue to love defending doctors in medical malpractice cases—Memphis is blessed with an amazing medical community. This has been a year of loss and a year of celebration for our class. The way we love and support each other all these years later is one of life’s greatest blessings.

1984

Vanessa Allen Dobbins

**A** shout out to **Carrie Jaeger Carpenter** who is the proud grandmother of eight-month-old Amarah and loves every minute of it. I cannot believe we already have a grandmother in our class! **Smitha Gollamudi’s** daughter Devi is enjoying Whitman College in Walla Walla where she runs and studies Japanese. **Kelly O’Shields Klink** and husband Russell recently visited Furman University where both sons are in school. August is a senior and Zachary is a sophomore. Kelly loves teaching fourth grade at PDS. **Cathie Turner Alexander** and husband Glynn are having fun being “adult kids”, enjoying trips to Harry Potter World at Orlando’s Universal Studios and Las Vegas for a Jimmy Buffett concert. Daughter Elizabeth graduated from the University of San Diego and is awaiting the start of nursing school at a yet to be determined location in California. Daughter Ellen is enjoying her sophomore year at University of Memphis. **Anne Crocker Hefter** has two sons in college

## CLASS NOTES

and happily welcomed their daughter back home post-graduation. The family recently hiked Glacier National Park and highly recommend it. Anne and husband Scott will soon start the Advanced Leadership Initiative at Harvard for a year. It is meant for business people hoping to make a switch to social impact. **Meade Jones Hanna** and husband Mike stay busy going to volleyball games to see their daughter compete, going to Richmond bars to see their oldest son in concert and scheduling trips to see their middle son at Oregon Institute of Technology. They visited the big island in Hawaii and saw an active caldera in Volcano National Park before activity shifted south to release lava and destruction at the south part of the island. Meade works with crisis stabilization in the mental health field and pursues modalities rooted in body awareness and creativity. Our condolences to Meade on the loss of both of her parents. Our athletic superstar **Merri Leigh Masters Johnson** made a great decision and underwent a right total hip replacement. She had an easy recovery and is pain free. Six months later she and family vacationed in Colorado where they traversed most of the state. Merri Leigh's youngest son is a seventh grader and oldest is in tenth grade. Merri Leigh is proud that her PT Neuro Residency was reaccredited for 10 years. **Ally Burr-Harris** celebrated her father's 80th birthday with a family reunion at YMCA of the Rockies. The kids had a blast and they camped all the way back to Portland. Their oldest son is in DC, son Solomon is a senior in high school and excelling. Daughter Rae 13 is a "fashionista" and officially embarrassed by everything that her parents do. She continues to dance competitively. **Alison Potts Hollewand** and family took a memorable six-week vacation together and visited Morocco, Japan, England, The South of France, various parts of Italy, and Santorini. Alison has been busy with her meditation for modern life business. She loves her work in self-care, emotional wellbeing, chronic illness recovery and inner practices and meditations. She writes, publishes, runs workshops, and guides meditations across various platform — reaching over ten thousand listens. Husband Mike is semi-retired and supports her business behind the scenes. Daughter Izzy (14) is an academic who loves high school.

Martin and I enjoyed a road trip to New Orleans where the highlight was visiting the WWII Museum and eating great food. I continue to work for a local staffing and IT consulting company and spend my week-ends volunteering at Mewtopia, a local kitty rescue.



1988

Anna McQuiston Holtzclaw

**Amy Weinberg Pearce** writes after 2 years she is getting used to living in Manhattan Beach, Ca.; they are renovating their house and looking for visitors! **Katherine Florendo** reports Carol-Ann moved into the freshman dorms at KU and is majoring in elementary education to be an ESL teacher in rural Japan. Mary-Olivia transitioned to 9th grade with 500 kids in her public school class with barely a hiccup. And Charlie is in 5th grade and plays the trombone. Kat took the kids on a Disney cruise to Alaska this summer where they enjoyed incredible Inside Passage views, hiking, ziplining, crab boat and glacier tours. She did cardio and lifted on board as she is prepping for show number 11. **Emily Ragen Smith** took Becca to Athens to start her freshman year at UGA. They also moved to a new home closer to downtown Columbia where Mateo walks home from school—as he finishes up his last year in middle school. **Mary Lacy Bell's** most exciting news of 2018 was receiving the Nanette Quinn Outstanding Teacher of the Year award from St. Mary's at Baccalaureate this Spring. She says it was a very nice surprise! She also writes French is exploding at St. Mary's, she has more students than ever and is planning a 3 week immersion trip to Nova Scotia for next summer. Robert is managing the Art Factory and working at Palladio. Ramie is really getting into the groove in her second year of civil engineering studies at University of Memphis and Bob just started his welding certification program at Moore Tech. **Jennifer Hanemann Chandler** dropped Hannah off to Boulder as a freshman at the University of Colorado, Sarah turned sixteen and started driving, and Jen started a new job as the new *Commercial Appeal* Food and Dining Reporter. **Frances Coughlin**

**Fenelon** writes that Nev and Nora are in 10th and 8th grades, respectively. Frances was promoted to Vice President and assistant general counsel at CHS, and loves the work. **Pidge Colbert Macdonald's** daughter Mallory '18 graduated from St Mary's and is a freshman at TCU. Her son, Whit, is a junior at Lausanne and a young pilot. Pidge just took a new job at University of TN Plastic Surgery as Senior Cosmetic Coordinator. **Beth Gowen Gillespie's** son, William, is also a freshman at TCU and he and Mallory have classes together — what a small world! Back in Memphis, Tod and I just moved back to midtown and are in the midst of renovating the house. Caroline started 7th grade at St. Mary's and is loving it. In a few years she will be one of Mary's French students! All my love to our Class with hopes of seeing everyone soon.



1990

Mirm Kriegel

**A**fter several protests that “nothing exciting is happening in my life,” the Class of '90 has delivered (or caved, depending on who you talk to). **Alexis Zanone** continues to trot the globe thanks to her sweet gig at the Four Seasons. Her last trip was to Thailand, and on the way back she swung by Memphis to visit family. **Beth Kreamer West** is living in Orange Beach with a full house. Kids are now 6, 10, and 13, and they're all drama queens — and kings — acting in local community theater, which keeps them off the streets most nights. Her family is big into camping and hiking but shook things up recently when they traded in tents for trains on a trip to DC. **Susan Hearn Morgan** has made a big career move. After nearly 20 years managing a nuclear pharmacy, she's now Assistant Dean at UT's College of Pharmacy, working directly with students. (In subsequent emails, she explained nuclear pharmacy to me. To do so here would exceed my word count, so just trust me when I say I understand it all). Her daughters Katherine '28 and Evelyn '33 are at SMS in third grade and kindergarten. **Ali Reaves Smith** reports that all is well and son Cole is in second grade at St George's. **Shelley Kuykendall Herzke** has once

## CLASS NOTES

again avoided writing in but gets coverage thanks to **Caroline Archer Baker**, who mentioned that Shelley brought her family to the UT/Florida game, where they honored the historic 1998 UT football team. Caroline is still teaching Kindergarten at Webb. Her son Anderson is applying to college, Sarah is in high school, and we are officially old. It was great to hear from **Laurie Smith Hooper**, who it turns out wasn't ignoring us all these years — we just had an ancient AOL address. Apart from switching to Gmail ages ago, she and husband Steven have a full, spirited house in Nashville with four kids: Lela (16), Cole (14), Katie (10) and Griffin (8). She shuffles between soccer, football, dance, and baseball, but a new driver in the family has taken a load off (while adding new worries!). They spent the end of the summer with much of her family and stole her sweet sister Wendy's '88 two boys Mason and Alden for a bit. (The boys still live in Jackson Hole and are doing great.) Our very own **Hilary Davis Robinson** is running the show at Moss Hall these days as Head of the Lower School. She has recently taken up skydiving as a way to detox and de-stress. Memphians, look up! You might see her flying on weekends near Big River Crossing. **Kristen Thompson Keegan** is subbing at Moss Hall this semester for someone on maternity leave and gets to see lots of Hilary and Shelley. She moonlights by promoting her label, Good Egg Jewelry, where all SMSers (including alums!) get 20% off with promo GOBBLE. (Check out her goods on Instagram.) **Madeline Amos Rollins** has become a yogi in Thomasville, Ga. (for real — she wasn't punk'd). She received her teacher certificate last year and loves sharing her knowledge of yoga. Her eldest, Raleigh III, is in his senior year and is applying to colleges. Lizzie is in high school and Robert is... well, she actually didn't say, but I'm gonna guess kindergarten based on Facebook photos (Madeline, amiright?) **Mary Anne Kish Seibert** is already looking ahead to next summer, when she and her extended family will be taking an excursion on an Alaskan cruise. They'll all set sail this June. **Missy Kramer Taranto** lives in New Orleans, where she's approaching the end of a nearly two-year restoration of a pre-Civil War home. She thinks they'll be done in 6 months (oomph, famous last words...) Her daughters are riding in

Mardi Gras this year (think Cotton Carnival, only different). **Tricia Hood Thomas** gets most consistent award. She and her husband Brian are still going to Alabama football games and Grizzlies games, she's still working at St. George's, still has two bulldogs, is still involved with Hope Church, and is still counting down to retirement. (Her hubs is first with nine more years to go.) **Ellen Rawlins Uzarowicz** lives in Hollywood, Calif. with her family, working as a costumer. Harlow is a freshman and Evangeline is in eighth grade (formerly Evie, but adolescence...). She and husband Piotr spend every free second driving them around. **Caydie Brown Nickey** wrote in just so she wouldn't get punk'd. (Again. At least she's owning it.) **Anne Copper DiFronzo** lives in Great Falls, Va. with her husband and three children and works part time for Cultural Care Au Pair. Her family joined **Kasha Winker Shaw** and her three kids in Sandbridge, Va., where they all rented a beach house this past summer. Kasha's husband Zeb is on a tour of duty so she's solo parenting for the next several months. Godspeed, Kasha. **Stacy Goldate** and her husband directed a feature film *A Greater Society*, which was written up in the *New York Times* (!!!). They called it "a timely reminder that grass-roots political activism can be initiated at any age..." (Stacy, I bow to you.) The film is now streaming on Vimeo on Demand for anyone to see. And it doesn't expire after the election. When **Taylor Holden Taylor** isn't working at The Racquet Club (where she's Director of Sales and Marketing and Wellness), she's leaning into her passion project, teaching Pickleball to children and their adults at the Universal Parenting Place at Perea Preschool and Knowledge Quest. She's currently working on securing funding to expand the program. Meanwhile, Holden '25 is a sixth grade Turkey who loves soccer and theater. And Bruce is in eighth grade at Grace St. Luke's, where he loves all things sport. **Paige Russell Brooks** is teaching in Atlanta, Georgia, and her twins Caroline and Greyson both just got their driver's licenses and work at Baskin Robbins. They took short summer trips to Hilton Head, S.C. and NYC, where they stayed with **Rachel Lightman**. (Shaila and I got to see them as well — a super fun reunion.) Here in Brooklyn, I'm feeling #blessed that I get to see so many SMSers

nearby. **Shaila Rao Bheda**, who lives just three blocks away, reports that Reva is in her last year of elementary school and Ishan started high school this year (Editor's note: his voice has also dropped 12 octaves). The kids enjoyed attending the two-part Harry Potter play with **Sujata Tejwani recently**. Rachel Lightman is living it up in Edgewater, N.J. with husband Jeremy and her two boys, Colin (15) and Griffin (4). She and I recently took two nostalgia trips when we saw Paul Simon on his farewell tour and the Indigo Girls. (Who needs Botox and fillers when we can revisit our youth through 80s folk rock?) Between work and life, I had a chance to travel to Budapest with my mom this summer and then to Australia to visit my husband's family. Our kids had a blast visiting all their Aussie kin, many young cousins included, and getting indoctrinated into the fervent subculture of Aussie Rules Football. They also got to visit their new cousin, Ayanda, Lara Kriegel's '86 daughter! Until next year.



1992

Alison Roesler Coons

Greetings from Germantown where things are pretty much the same for the Coons' Crew EXCEPT we are now totally in the throes of college applications and portfolio submissions, and no, I can't believe I just wrote that, but yes, our Emma is a senior this year! Not sure where she will end up yet (stay tuned!), but we are excited to go on this new adventure and open this new chapter in our lives with her. Charlie just started middle school (6<sup>th</sup> grade) this year, so — much to his old soul's chagrin — he's still got few years before he's university bound, but I know it's going to be his turn all too soon. All I have to do is blink! **Rebecca Hornstein** wrote in to say that she and her two little ones bought a new place, literally across the street from their old place, so they're planning on being in LIC for the long haul. She is still at Morgan Stanley, now heading Risk Data Aggregation and Governance. Henry is in 4th grade, and Evelyn is in 1st grade. Life (touch wood) is good. **Aasma Khandekar** touched base to report that she and Wayez and the kids made the tough but exciting

## CLASS NOTES

decision to leave New England for Texas over the summer to pursue new opportunities and be closer to family. She's now working in a high risk NICU developmental follow up practice which was a little bit of a career shift from doing developmental behavioral peds, but it's exciting and she's enjoying it so far. She also loves being back in the South! **Ellie Morris Weiss** chimed in to say hi from Atlanta and said that she and husband, Josh, are doing great along with daughters Mary Amelia (8th) and Anne (5th). She echoed my sentiment about how life just seems to be speeding by but also said how much she appreciated all of her SMS friends who wrote or called back in May when her father passed. We love you, Ellie! **Leslie Pettit Canon** is currently looking to find a full-time teaching job while working as a teacher's aid at her children's school. She said how much fun she had at the reunion 2 years ago and can't wait to come to another one! And last but certainly not least, **Linsey Knight** sent greetings from Alaska— navigating her containership on the Bering Sea! Wow! Talk about adventure! Love hearing from you all — take care!

1994

Kathryn Leigh DeRossitt

**Mary Denton Sensing** reports that life in Nashville is going well. She works part time at an elementary school and is navigating being a good mom to teenage boys. Her son Denton is a freshman and Benjamin is a junior who just recited Canterbury Tales and took the SAT. This is also his year to start college visits. Both her sons took dates to the Homecoming Dance and she can't believe how fast high school is going! **Laura Foster Gettys** wrote in with her news while taking a break from writing a chapel talk for St. Mary's! She says all her boys, husband and sons, are doing great, and she is enjoying her eighth year at St. Mary's Cathedral and that she loves it!

**Danielle Shelley Coolidge** is busy juggling extracurricular activities with her sons who are 11 and five! Her response is "yikes!" to her 11-year-old starting tackle football! She passes St. Mary's every day! As I know many St. Mary's Memphis Alums



Lee Raines Buchmann '93 at the top of Mt. Quandary in Colorado—her first 14-er!

do — don't you just want to go in and sit at a desk and go back in time for a few minutes? **Mary Evelyn Stevens Fore** is in Memphis with three girls (7, 10, and 12). She is enjoying their ages very much right now and volunteering with church and the girls' school during the day, and being the family Uber in the afternoon and helping with homework. Life is very full but very fun! **Jamie Morano Re** and husband Sergio are having a wonderful time with son Alex, who will be three in December! They just returned from an academic sabbatical in July to Amsterdam and Italy, and then immersed themselves in toddler speech and language development upon return! Congratulations to Jamie for being promoted to Associate Professor of Infectious Diseases and International Medicine at the University of South Florida. She is also really enjoying teaching and shaping health policy on a local, state, and national level, as well as working in Telehealth. Her husband Sergio is a great help, and continues to do great at Microsoft. She enjoyed seeing **Jessica Johnson Webb** and **Hallie Dinkelspiel Label** at their Princeton Reunion in June! She hopes anyone near Disneyworld or Tampa will get in touch so she can say hello! Hallie reports that Henry (3rd grade) is playing "travel" soccer and baseball, which consists of going to different suburbs and playing teams. Like Hallie, he loves

playing goalie and she loves to goalie coach on occasion. She tries not to say too much during games because she notices husband Justin wanting to crawl under his chair when she does. Ha-ha! Son Sam is 6 and just started kindergarten and daughter Katie is 3 and in preschool. Hallie is in Rock Springs overseeing the business — a health-care hedge fund. A fellow SMSer, Daphne Trainor Bahl '01, joined her company a bit over a year ago — and Hallie loves having another SMS alum on a team of only 19 in the whole company. Husband Justin is still investing in cybersecurity start-ups and gets back to San Francisco about once a month. Hallie's sister Helen Dinkelspiel '97 is in Austin and is expecting a bundle of joy in a couple months with her husband and sister Hilary Dinkelspiel Dona '99 and her husband are moving from NY to Austin in the next few months — so her whole family will be either Memphis, Austin or Baltimore/DC — closer than they have been in a while, something Hallie is looking forward to. **Virginia Ralston Jaramillo** reports that the Jaramillos are staying busy with school, activities and the like. Her little guy Luis Oscar just started preschool so they have begun the countdown towards "all three in public school," which she is really excited about! Her husband Mateo closed a Series A for his new battery company Form Energy and Virginia is working at a digital health startup called Physera and so she and her husband are both in start-ups! They just returned from a family camping trip in Pfeiffer State Park in Big Sur that was beautiful and a wonderful antidote to watching soccer games all day in foggy SF. Virginia and her family, her sisters Olivia Ralston '95 and Michelle Ralston Morris '03 along with their families, are getting together in Mexico for Christmas and Virginia will be in Memphis in the Spring! **Helen Burr** is still in Spain with her husband and children, and reports that the British school she teaches music at is growing and keeping her busy. Her 8-year-old loves drawing and acting while her 5-year-old loves going fast and is suddenly obsessed with learning the violin. She and her family had a wonderful reunion in Colorado this summer, a little trip to Yellowstone and then some lovely relaxing time in Mountain Home, Ark. where her parents live now.

Lots of pilgrims on their way to Santiago

## CLASS NOTES

de Compostela are coming right past her house now if they're doing the Portuguese coastal way – so she asks that if anyone knows anyone doing the pilgrimage, put them in touch with her! **Karrie Cummings Hendrickson** is enjoying life in Tucson, Ariz. She will soon make a trip to Memphis to see her sister, Rachel, get married in November! Her sons, Nikolas (8), and Braden (4), spent several weeks in Memphis visiting Karrie's parents and attended summer camps at Moss Hall! Karrie noticed that Moss Hall has changed and grown so much but is still the place we remember fondly. Her husband Robert is in his third year as Rector of St. Phillips in the Hills Episcopal Church and that they are finally starting to feel at home in the desert. Karrie is still working in innovation science and as a distance employee for Yale-New Haven Health System and she loves it! Last September to December, **Edith Ritterband Goody** took a 200-hour yoga teacher training and is now a certified yoga instructor. This summer she trained as a kids' yoga instructor as well, and is hoping to run a family yoga program soon. Right now, she is working as an independent contractor in preschools in my neighborhood (Great Neck, Manhasset, Port Washington – all on Long Island, NY) and spends her free time shuttling her 7-year-old daughter to her various activities. This summer, Edith had the opportunity to teach a class through the adult continuing education program at LaGuardia Community College in Queens. She created the curriculum last year for a 100-hour physical therapy aid training class and have taught the class 3 times since then. It's an unusual program, with the intention of reaching people who, demographically, would not likely know anything about physical therapy or not be likely to begin studying towards an associate's degree (as a PT Assistant) or higher. Cody and **Kara Witherspoon Giles** still love life in Oxford, Mississippi, though football season crowds are not her favorite! She recently took a job as Executive Assistant and Communications Director to the Mayor of Oxford. It is fun and never boring – like a cross between the sitcom "Spin City," Parks and Rec," with a little of "The Office" thrown in! She's known the Oxford Mayor for years and so working with her is very fun. Her sons Lucian (14)

and Fisher (10) are still as active as ever and both play baseball, basketball, and box. This past August, Lucian had a REAL boxing match for which he trained for months and he did amazingly well against a much more experienced boxer. Fisher stays very busy with travel baseball and they are about to jet off to Southaven for a tournament. Both have also really taken an interest in art recently. She's taught Lucian to paint portraits in a pop-art style and Fisher is her abstract artist. The family also continues to spend a good amount of time during the summer in Cashiers, N.C., where Kara's parents have a home. Most of their time there is spent fishing or by the pool to escape the Mississippi heat. **Sarah Lacy** recently had a great trip to Memphis, followed by an awesome trip fishing and kayaking and sleeping in a big pile of children in Tahoe. This was what she called her kids' "summer of dirt" – where she tried to break them out of their city kid lives by judging a day's success by how dirty they were at the end of it! Sarah and Paul, her boyfriend and business partner, recently had work trips to Seattle, Denver, London and back to Seattle. At the end of September, she took 100 women to a restored gold mining town in Northern California for a "Flee" sponsored by her startup Chairman Mom, and she was THRILLED that SMS alums Carrie Sue Casey Hanback '95 and Katherine Wiseman '95 attended! Congratulations are in order, because next month, she is included in *Inc.* Magazine's list of 100 Top Female Founders "building the most exciting businesses in America." Finally, Sarah has renovated her San Francisco house, employed the Got Junk guys, hired an interior decorator, and made a magical backyard full of plants and movie parties for her kids and their friends! Sarah also reports that she is on the move – training for her first half marathon, and escaping to Golden Gate State Park to train. **Sarah Cole-Turner Vincent** and family survived Hurricane Florence in Burlington, N.C. without a scratch! Whew! She and her family have been very busy moving into a "new" 101-year-old Craftsman bungalow near downtown. While mostly renovated, she says there is always work to be done! They are loving the front and back porches as well as the ability to walk to church and downtown businesses. Sarah and husband Hal are eagerly anticipating the opening of

the Burlington Beer Works, which is a co-op brewery and restaurant her husband is helping to start downtown. They are hoping to be open by the end of the year. Hal continues to teach at Elon for his "real job". They just enjoyed a great and busy summer visiting NY and NJ, Asheville, Nashville, where they had so much fun taking the kids to NYC for the first trip that they will really remember! They loved the Statue of Liberty and Chinatown. Son Ben is in 5th grade and just won the election for student council secretary! He is enjoying soccer, piano, and lots of school activities. Daughter Caroline is doing great in 2nd grade, still speaking Spanish all day and enjoying soccer and violin. She has also picked up a new interest...cheerleading...and gets to perform at all the Elon University home games. Sarah says she knows NOTHING about cheer, but Caroline loves it and is totally hooked. Sarah is still working in the schools as a speech pathologist, and stays busy driving everyone to their activities, cleaning up before and after play dates, and occasionally getting to a yoga class. She is helping to host a women's retreat at her church and enjoyed running Vacation Bible School this summer!



1996

Jaime Newsom

It was great to hear from everyone this time around! **Sharlene Sidhu Keithley** continues to work for Senatobia and Desoto Children's Clinics as Director of Strategic Planning and Revenue Cycle. She also still sits on the Board of Directors for the Colorado Children's Campaign, an advocacy group that is the leading voice of Colorado kids all over the state. Her husband Liv is a partner at his law firm and son Rajan is in 6th grade at St. Mary's Academy in Denver ("it's a great independent private school, like our St. Mary's!"). Daughter Saira is in 4<sup>th</sup> grade and loves her school. She reports that both kids are active in sports, music, and Girl/Boy Scouts – which keeps Sharlene super busy when she's not working herself. **Courtney Shove** is going back to California to participate in the Big Sur International Marathon Relay. She is excited to go back to the Monterey area since moving away from there three years ago.

## CLASS NOTES

She is also in her second year of serving on the SMS Alumnae Board and really enjoys staying connected to the school in that way. **Maesie Speer** is still living/working in central Oregon at the Caldera Arts Center. This summer she started an additional gig as a facilitator for Oregon Humanities. She travels around the state facilitating conversations on The Ecology of Creative Space – working with communities to explore how the natural world can inspire more inclusive and resilient creative spaces. She is also doing a 2 week artist residency at The Suttle Lodge. She's psyched to have some time to focus on personal projects and connect with the land in a more sustained way. **Bernice Chen** reports that her kids are growing too fast, with Landon starting kindergarten and Bethany starting preschool this year. **Natalie Nussbaum** and I took a trip to San Francisco with some friends to celebrate our 40th birthdays. We were so lucky to have a mini reunion with **Leslie Forell Boyle** and Bernice and meet their beautiful families!

1998

Laurin Maddux

**Ashley Bellet** is a visiting professor at Millikin University for the Fall Semester before returning to Madison to begin her dissertation in the Spring. Additionally, she has been elected to the Board of Directors for USITT and will continue as the Commissioner for Education. She spent the Summer working for the Santa Fe Opera as a Crafts Artisan. She recently travelled to visit **Monica Wilson Barton** in Springfield and had a great time at the zoo with Monica's two children Wyatt and Erica. **Erin Wade** graduated from her Pediatric Residency at the University of Louisville where she won the Kentucky Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics Award and the Resident Division Award in Outpatient Pediatrics and Child Abuse Medicine. She is now living in Atlanta completing a Child Abuse Fellowship and was recently engaged to Kyle who joined us at the reunion this Spring. She also writes that she is going to be an Aunt again this Spring and that she would love a visit from

any St. Mary's girls who find their way to Atlanta. **Allison Martin Nolen** is finishing up her final requirement to apply for her California Nursing license, so they can move out West by the end of the school year. Her son Daniel is in Middle School and daughter Sadie '24 started Kindergarten this year. **Carly Hansen Kordsmeier** and **Allyn Jaqua Lowell** had a chance to get together recently in Dallas and had a blast as usual. Carly continues to enjoy her work as the Director of Operations at Site Selection Group. **Nupur Sidhu Bal** was named to Virginia's Leaders in the Law for 2018 and joined the Board of Directors for the Richmond YMCA. The Bal family continues to enjoy traveling and just enjoyed two weeks in Italy and are looking forward to a trip to Mexico over the holidays. **Meg Kinard Hardee** has been busy covering Hurricane Florence and was on national TV as part of the coverage. She is also pursuing a Masters in Digital Communication from UNC-Chapel Hill. She is also enjoying her role as Mom to a lower, middle, AND high schooler! **Esie Arrindell-Williams** and her family are preparing for a work related few months abroad in London beginning in the Spring. In the interim, her two girls, Kennedy '26 (10) and Madison '29 (8) are enjoying being SMS Turkeys and Esie is excited to be joining the St. Mary's Alumnae Board. **Booker Garrett** has a role in a feature film, *The Rainbow Experiment*, which is now touring the film festival circuit, last month she shot a role in an Indie Film with Academy Award winner Melissa Leo and youth icon/former Disney kid Bella Thorne and currently she is also in an Off Broadway show at the Cherry Lane Theatre in the West Village called HURRICANE PARTY developed by her company The Collective NY with one of their resident writers David Thigpen and directed by Maria Dizzia, Tony nominated actress and cast member of *Orange Is The New Black*. In between acting gigs, she has also been doing producing work on films. I have been staying busy with work as we opened our newest hospital in East Tennessee in October. In between work and being the Aunt to the most adorable nephews ever, I have enjoyed trips to Fla., Colo., and N.C. I really enjoyed seeing all of you that could be there at the reunion this Spring. Next time any of you out of towners are in town (like

over the holidays, maybe?) please reach out so we don't have to wait for reunion to get together!

2000

Whitney Baer Foster

As always, receiving updates from the class is one of the best parts of the year! We begin with a heartfelt congratulation to **Tami Sawyer** for a landslide victory to become the new Shelby County Commissioner for District 7. **Phyllis Huang** and **Lexie Hicks Johnston** were with Tami on election night and I know that many more of us were with her in spirit. Tami was sworn in on August 30 and is already taking commanding roles as the new chair of the Law Enforcement/Courts Committee and Vice Chair of the Education Committee. She was also named to *Ebony* Magazine's Power 100 list which recognizes the top 100 leaders in the black community. So proud that we can claim Tami as a part of our class and can't wait to see the progress she will make in an elected position. The class of 2000 is also celebrating an extraordinary baby boom! **Lisa Ansley Clapper** reports that she is now a mommy of two. James David Clapper joined the family in early January and Lisa's daughter, Lily '32, is a proud big sister. **Carrie Lawson Wills** shared news of another little one in May with the arrival of Poppy. Big sister Lela has started kindergarten and is a sweet and helpful big sister. Carrie continues to work as a nurse in the coronary ICU and escapes with the family to the Ouachita mountains as often as they can! **Ellis Dixon** has mastered the art of one handed-typing since giving birth to Emma in August. Ellis and Alex are still living in Lisbon, Portugal, and Ellis is juggling motherhood and maintenance of her site, AtlasLisboa.com. **Kristine New Farnsworth** is also mother to a new little one. Alden James Farnsworth joined Kristine, Thomas, and his brothers in early September. They continue to enjoy the Pacific Northwest with hikes by the sound and in the mountains, celebrating the salmon run, and adventures at forest school. **Mary-Kathryn Millner Herrington** is counting the days until her new arrival in October. A little girl will join Millie, 5, and

## CLASS NOTES

Logan, 3. So happy for all of this good news! **Megha Karkera Kanjia** writes in that she and the family are doing well in Houston. Kishore is now 4 and Kiran is 2. They hope to plan a visit to Memphis soon... hopefully with coconut chocolate chip bread pudding. **Mershon Sneed Bergeron** is keeping busy with Kit's full schedule of cross country, girl scouts, cheer, and Lego League. Mershon's role at Regions has evolved to commercial lending and treasury management for South Mississippi, South Alabama, and the Florida panhandle. **Jessie Swanson Fila** is loving every minute of watching her two-and-a-half year-old twins discover new things, learn new words, and develop new interests. **Walton Allen Webster** moved to Fremont, Ohio over the summer. Her boys, Jack, 13, John Henry, 10, and Walt, 5, are looking forward to seeing the seasons change after living in Florida. Walton is also juggling a busy calendar with working for a school in China and entering the third year of her doctorate program. **Kim Fleischhauer Cook** shared that her daughters are growing up and thriving! Elsa is 16, while Tess and Reese are now 10. Kim is loving watching Elsa truly enjoy high school life and all the activities and AP classes that come with it. **Sarah Montgomery Prudhon** continues to feel blessed in her work and is loving her job at LeBonheur. Her daughter, Etta Louise '32 is loving JK at SMS and is still best of friends with Lisa Ansley Clapper's Lily. **Lauren Weinrich Bernstein** is amazed at how quickly things are changing with baby Max at just 9 months old! He is now crawling, pulling himself up onto everything, and stringing together sounds. Lauren is still excited about her work in DC and is getting used to the challenges of being a working mama. **Courtney Routt Worthman** opened the NYC office of Burns Entertainment in June. The Chicago-based company has been in business for 48 years and Courtney is giving them a New York outpost! Her son, Miles, is in preschool and she is expecting a visit from **Amy Reinhardt Robinson** and daughter, Mimi, in December. **Kate Wichlinski** writes in that she and her partner are now living in DC. Kate has made the transition from running the road to running the trails, and is making her way as a freelance photographer. As for me, Charley and I have been enjoying life back in Memphis! In

January, I started a position with the new Department of Global Pediatric Medicine at St. Jude and have been busy helping to launch new programs and initiatives to make sure that all children have access to quality care and treatment no matter where they live. My family has also been reveling in the joy of my new nephew, Cameron, and I try to see Marley and Cameron as often as I can! Thanks to all for their contributions. I am forever grateful to be a part of this class and send lots of love to all of you!

2002

Polly Klyce Pennoyer

It's always a pleasure to hear what the Class of 2002 is up to—thanks to all who wrote in. From Colorado, **Lauren Deeley** writes that she has had a year of travel and adventure, including trips to Greenland, Cartegna and Antarctica (!) and has kindly offered to take us all on as life-coaching clients. **Melissa Lawson Romero** is also in Colorado, where she has started work at a law firm following her clerkship; she and husband Carlos are otherwise occupying themselves looking after daughters, Etta (5) and Soledad (1), two dogs and three chickens. As usual, **Wendi Muse** has also been spending time across the globe, including research trips to Mozambique and Brazil; when she settles back in the United States, it will be in the home that she and husband, Kani, have purchased in Baltimore, Md. **Kate Thornton Wooldridge** and her husband, Andy, are also enjoy life as homeowners in Nashville, where they keep busy working (Kate is in Hospital Medicine at Vanderbilt) and chasing after sons, Luke (4) and Noah (1.5), and dogs, Poquito (11) and Cora (8). **Lindsey Coates Horvatic** and husband Tim are enjoying life as not-quite-newlyweds in Orlando, where Lindsey is now working as a mental health counselor. Tim works for Disney, by the way, and the two of them have taken to socializing at the Disney parks—make sure to let them know if you're making a pilgrimage to the Mouse! Also working for Disney is **Marley Baer Schauer**—she and husband Eric recently moved from Los Angeles to Fort Lauderdale, where they are still settling in. Their son, Cameron, turns 1 this

November. **Catherine Ferguson Conger** is happily settled in South Carolina with husband Kyle and their four kids: Wallace (8), Finley (7), Maeve (3) and Madeline (1.5). Catherine is keeping busy with PTA mom duties, her church, and a healthy dose of political activism. In New Orleans, **Laura Hettinger** and her husband, George, have just welcomed baby Mila Rose; older brother Ike (1.5) is mostly enthusiastic about his new role. **Naree Chan** and husband Alby are settled in Fremont, Calif., where Naree is working as an Assistant City Attorney and both are enjoying parenting daughter, Dani (almost 2). **Anna Traverse** is in Memphis, where she has recently taken a job at Contemporary Media, publisher of the *Memphis Flyer* and *Memphis* magazine. It has been so much fun to read her stories and enjoy her burgeoning photography career—check out her work online! **Hillary Burkett** is also back in the homeland; she has recently bought a house in Olive Branch and is working in strategic planning for Methodist Le Bonheur Healthcare. **Emily May Lequerica** and her husband, Frank, are also in Memphis, where Emily is now the Assistant Director of Admissions at PDS; she is also head of the PDS faculty nursery program, where daughter, May (1.5) is a regular attendee. **Rachel Andersen** is still in New Orleans, where she has recently taken up computer coding, gotten engaged to now-fiancé, Jonathan Bass, and celebrated her cat's 10<sup>th</sup> birthday. **Leslie Guinn Jerkins** and her husband, Jonathan, are loving life in their new home of Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, where they are raising Juliette (7), Molly (5) and George (3). I am still in NYC, where my husband, Robbie, and I have recently bought an apartment that we will hopefully one day finish ren-



Class of 2003 friends Lauren Coleman Robinson, Mary Milton Kelly and Michelle Ralston Morris travel together.

## CLASS NOTES

ovating and be able to move into. We have started looking at kindergarten programs for our daughter, Victoria (4.5)—there are some great girls' schools up here, but I wish she could go to St. Mary's! I'm sure many of you sympathize. Finally, it is with the heaviest of hearts that our classmates have gathered, virtually and physically, around **Elizabeth Campbell Granieri** and her husband, Mike, this fall. We were all devastated to learn that their little boy, Hudson (5 mos), died in his sleep at home in Memphis in October. I had the pleasure of meeting Hudson this summer, when the Granieri family was based in New York, and he was truly a delight. We are all grieving with Elizabeth and Mike and their families—we cannot imagine the pain you are experiencing but we send you our sincerest love and sympathies. May Hudson's memory be a blessing.

2004

Victoria Luke Morich

The Class of 2004 is making careers moves, buying houses, getting married, and having babies... all while finding time to enjoy life and stay connected with their SMS classmates. Read on to hear more! Let's kick it off with **Rachel Bearman** who was chosen to be the Communications and Marketing VP of the Women's Rabbinic Network, a national organization dedicated to supporting female rabbis and addressing women's issues in the rabbinate. Rachel continues to serve as the rabbi of Temple Bnai Chaim in Georgetown, Conn. **Brittany Johnson Hernandez** began a new chapter in her career as the Director of Advocacy for the Muscular Dystrophy Association, where she leads MDA's government affairs operation. She and her husband Saul recently celebrated their daughter Ellie's first birthday with friends, family, and lots of cake! **Shea O'Rourke Quraishi** is serving as the Interim Executive Director of Frameworks of Tampa Bay, a nonprofit that works with teachers to cultivate students' emotional intelligence. Shea spends the rest of her time obsessing over her poodles, working on her doctorate in education policy, and spending time with husband George. **Katie Gore** is enjoying business ownership, being her



Bride Natalie Hartmann Malone '04 with Lawrence Taylor Elliott '04 and daughter Eliza

own boss, and flying solo with her British Lab Sally in their new condo in Central Gardens. She is celebrating the 2-year anniversary of her shop, FOX+CATVINTAGE, and was selected as one of St. Jude's fourteen women of distinction. She is honored to have **Clare Patterson** join her at the event at her table. Outside of wining and dining at fancy dinners, Clare is focusing on addiction research in the Department of Pharmacology at UTHSC using a model organism, the friendly nematode, *C. elegans*. Her job has been described as "a very highly educated bartender for worms". Clare is preparing for medical school and absolutely loves her position in research. Speaking of medical school, **Caitlin Carr** is completing her 4th and final year of OBGYN residency at the Cleveland Clinic Foundation and has applied for a Gynecologic Oncology fellowship position. Caitlin had an exciting summer traveling for interviews and presenting her research on hereditary endometrial cancer screening and looks forward to steelhead fly fishing season! **Angela Wilcox Palmer** is celebrating her 5th (not final) year of neurosurgery residency in Little Rock, Ark. She has a passion for pediatric spinal deformity and is currently investigating fellowship opportunities. Angela has learned to fly in military-style formation as well as fly aerobatics in her little airplane under the instruction of her husband Tommy. **Lauren Lazar** and **Camille Wingo** are still loving

life in Dallas, where Lauren is in her second year of Pediatric Gastroenterology fellowship at UT-Southwestern, and Camille is a brand manager for Tostitos chips & dips at Frito-Lay. Both recently purchased (separate) condos within a few blocks of each other and have no viable romantic prospects or babies on the horizon. **Jennie Weaver Tucker** is continuing her career as a Neonatal Nurse Practitioner at LeBonheur. She and her husband Aubrey stay busy with sons Andrew, Jack, and Henry and enjoy seeing **Martha Ferguson Burke** at St. Agnes- St. Dominic school events. **Amy Crawford Céspedes** and her husband James have been juggling chasing after their running one-year-old, Elena Grace, as she chases after Coco and Edi, their nervous terriers, and Amy's new job as Legal Counsel in Shell Oil Company's Global Litigation Department. **Zoë Kahn** recently moved her psychotherapy private practice from Santa Monica to the Silver Lake neighborhood in Los Angeles and is enjoying seeing clients in her new location. She has been asked to contribute monthly psychology articles for the online publication PsychCentral and is writing a book. **Lawrence Taylor Elliott** is entering her fourth year of private practice at Sage Hill Counseling. Her two daughters, Eliza and Briggs, have recently turned four and one and are becoming best friends. She has had a great triathlon season and is now training for Ironman Chattanooga in September 2019. Zoë and Lawrence will be heading to St. Simon's Island, Ga. in October for **Natalie Hartmann's** wedding where **Lauren Brooks Foti** will be serving as her maid of honor! Lauren will be standing at the altar alongside her son Michael, the ringbearer, and Lawrence Taylor Elliott's daughter Eliza, the flower girl. Speaking of weddings, **Elizabeth Stevenson Brenner** had the perfect wedding in June to Aaron Brenner and is loving decorating their new home in Littleton, Colo. She is teaching first grade at a new elementary school this year and is excited to spend this year exploring more of what Colorado has to offer! **Marion Phillips** is also officially a homeowner, buying a condo in Midtown Atlanta earlier this year. She still enjoys her job in Economic Development at Georgia Power and had a blast in Memphis celebrating Elizabeth Stevenson Brenner's

## CLASS NOTES

wedding. **Morgan Lobe** is getting settled in Scottsdale, Ariz. where she and her fiancé recently bought their first home. She is adjusting to life in the desert and is approaching her one-year anniversary at One Medical Group where she works as a family physician. **Piper Gray** just marked the ten-year milestone in NYC and is over-the-moon excited to celebrate Morgan Lobe's marriage alongside **Cathleen Ray Hickey**, **Taylor Fisher Morrison**, and **Lori Goldstein** this November! **Lindsey McAlpin-Pinegar** and her husband Beau had an amazing honeymoon trip to Tahiti and New Zealand in February, and now they are enjoying their new life in Gulf Shores, Ala. Lindsey just started her second year of private practice as an OBGYN and is excited to announce the arrival of a baby boy John Wilder Pinegar in December 2018. After over 10 years of living in New York City, **Lucy Harris Collins** is moving to Santa Barbara, Calif. in October with her husband, Josh, and their 10-month-old son, Quincy. Just to keep things interesting, she is also expecting her second baby boy due in March 2019. Speaking of babies, **Kaitlin Ridder Jaqua** welcomed baby boy Henry Hudson Jaqua on January 23. Kaitlin will finish her urology residency in Indianapolis in June and has signed with Anne Arundel Urology in Annapolis, MD. where she will move next summer! January 23 must be a magical date because **Victoria Luke Morich** also welcomed baby girl Erin Avery Morich on that same day! To add to the fun Victoria recently started a new job at Coca-Cola where she is a Senior Insights Manager for drug and value shoppers. **Lauren Arnold Bell** and husband Brandon welcomed baby boy Jude Theodore Bell into their lives on June 29. **Elizabeth Jemison** welcomed baby boy Walter Andrew Malwitz on December 26. Elizabeth and her husband Andrew Malwitz enjoyed introducing Walter to lots of SMS alumnae at Lizzie Stevenson's June 2018 wedding to Aaron Brenner. Finally, **Blair Carter Tait** is excited to be staying home with their daughter Mary Mason for this season of life. Mary Mason recently started preschool, and Blair and her husband Tom continue to enjoy all that Atlanta has to offer.

2006

Becky Bicks  
Mamie Kostka

**Becky Bicks** is still living in Beacon, NY and running her own content writing business, Bespectacled Editor. She had an excellent time this summer alongside fellow 06ers' **Neelam Khan Ali**, **Elise Herron**, **Meredith Robinson**, **Allison Watts Hood**, **Ellen Bransford**, and **Katie Camille Friedman** at the wedding of **Elliott Machin** to Jonathan Cooper on August 4, 2018 in Colorado Springs, Colo.! **Elize Mercer** and Ellen Bransford spent 10 days in Alaska this summer and had an absolute blast. They cruised and kayaked in the waters around Kenai Fjords National Park and camped and hiked in Denali. The two were also at the wedding of **Holly Hendrix** to Neal Vitalis on May 12, 2018. Holly has also started a new job as a Senior Project Manager with Hilton Architecture, Design, and Construction. She is loving the new opportunities this job has provided her in both management and construction experience. **Evie Lyras** lives in Los Angeles, Calif. and works at Lionsgate and earlier this summer she wrote, directed, and performed a show at the Ruskin Theater in Santa Monica! **Melissa Arnold Lyon** and her husband Jeremy Lyon welcomed a baby boy, Ronen Baker Lyon on September 14, 2018 in New York City, NY. **Rebecca Anderson Eby** moved to Austin, Texas in July for a new job in asset management, and she became a first time homeowner. **Beth Pazar D'Arcy** moved from Dallas, Texas to Richmond, Va. and she loves it. She is now working as the Executive Assistant to the Chief Administrative Officer for the City of Richmond, and she loves being able to hang out with **McKenzie Carson**! **Rachel Johnston-White** has been working in Vienna for the past year as a postdoctoral fellow and lecturer. She is also on planes a lot, as her husband Iain is working in the London area. She moved down from west Wales in June, and so far is really enjoying London (and being MUCH closer to airports!) **Courtney Foreman Guilfoile** and her husband Russell just moved back to Chapel Hill, N.C. after living in Italy

for 2 years. They are expecting their first child (it's a boy!) in early December! She is resuming her career in healthcare administration while her husband is doing a Masters in Accounting at UNC. She had a wonderful time living in Europe, but is very excited to be back in the US for the next chapter of her life! **Aasiya Mirza Glover** lives in New Rochelle, New York, with her husband Clayton and their children Elias and Harper Anne. They are strange and hilarious, lovers equally of dinosaurs and Gene Kelly. She works in the field of international arbitration at a law firm in New York City. This past year has been a year of ping-pong between extremes: staring up at apatosauruses with her children, sitting in hearing rooms in Paris with her colleagues, sitting before a judge in immigration court for a client (he can stay!), and walking up to burned-out houses in Bessemer, Alabama for witness interviews. **Chelsey Diffie** recently joined Hobson Realtors in Memphis to be a real estate agent. She has been working hard to build her client base and has already closed on some homes in her first 6 months. It's a fun and rewarding job that takes a lot of self-motivation and patience. **Katie Camille Friedman** finished her PhD in Environmental Engineering and is now based in Seattle and looking for a job in global health.

2008

Katelyn Ammons Barnett  
Margaret Liddon Emley  
Edie Miller

**Ayana Fletcher-Tyson** finally got to see *Hamilton* and it was truly special! **Jenny Guyton** is in her second year at Wharton. Over the summer, she interned at Oxen Partners, a healthcare venture capital firm headquartered in New York, and at Bridgewater Associates, the world's largest hedge fund. **Amanda Castoverde** just celebrated 5 years in Austin and is settling in for the long haul after surviving a year of homeownership. She remains focused on her goal to become a crazy cat lady. **Saba Dilawari** has been at LinkedIn working as a Product Marketing Manager for their Video and News products for the last 6 months. In her spare time, she regularly wanders over to

## CLASS NOTES

**Morgan Jordan's** place to borrow clothes. **Ashley Edge Adams** is still enjoying her role as Community Partnerships Manager at Grizzlies Prep Charter School while also keeping very busy with her two year old daughter, Kyser. **Estes Gould Hughes** has embarked upon a new career path in real estate – so if you're moving to Birmingham, you know who to call! She is still living in a fun-loving neighborhood in the 'Ham with her husband and two rescue pups, whom she spoils like children. **Lane Feler** is still lawyering in New York but has started teaching yoga and helped launch a non-profit that provides solar power to underserved communities in Brazil. **Meg Fowler** graduated from Vanderbilt in May with a Doctor of Jurisprudence and Master's of Science in Finance. After sitting for the Bar Exam at the end of the summer and taking a vacation to Montana and Wyoming, she started as an associate at a law firm in New York City this fall. **Jess Farris Zafarris** is the content director of *Writer's Digest* and a freelance blogger and social media strategist. She lives in Colo. with two dogs, a cat, a turtle, and her awesome husband. **Cristen Garrett Cain** finished her internship this summer and is now a second-year resident at Emory doing full-time anesthesia and really enjoying it! She has enjoyed traveling when possible, including going to Asheville for **Mary Greer Simonton's** wedding with some other turkeys. **Anisa Allad** married Adam Fedoruk at the Loveless Café in Nashville with Saba, Morgan, Jeanne, and Liv by her side. She is already celebrating lots of progress with her K-4 special education class at Waverly-Belmont Elementary. **Katelyn Ammons Barnett** and her husband, Adam, enjoyed a fantastic summer vacation driving through Switzerland and Italy. She is in her seventh year of teaching fourth grade. **Katherine Xie** is hard at work breaking (and fixing) bones as an orthopedic surgery resident in Richmond, Va. In her spare time, she enjoys spending time with her two geriatric dogs and eating all the fried things. **Nicolette Overton** enjoyed a busy spring and summer, catching up with classmates at the weddings of Memory, Sarah, Nayha, and Mary Greer as well as St. Mary's graduation for her little sister, Livia Overton '18. The multi-national clinical trial she works on showed statistical significance in reducing

cardiovascular death in diabetic patients. **Mary Ward Pollard Black** recently completed a postdoctoral fellowship and passed her licensure exam. She is working as a licensed clinical psychologist at the University of Mississippi. **Hanna Gordon Oysel** is absolutely loving being a mom to Emilia! She is constantly amazed at how fast Emilia is learning and changing.



2010

Rachel Stuart

---

Several of us are now finishing graduate programs and settling into jobs as we inch closer to our ten-year reunion. **Callie McCool** graduated from Baylor College of Medicine this May and is now in the first several months of a psychiatry residency at UT Houston. **Sri Pulusani** and **Mary Stevenson** will be adding to our ranks of M.D.s in May when they graduate from UTHSC. Meanwhile, **Rachel Green** and **Susannah Griffie** are finishing up their final years of law school at Stanford and University of Chicago, respectively. Susannah has accepted an offer to work at Ropes & Gray's New York office after graduation, and is looking forward to moving back to NYC. Rachel will be on the opposite coast after graduation, working in San Francisco as an associate at Lieff, Cabraser, Heimann & Bernstein and looking forward to clerking for an Indiana judge in a couple years. **Carey Segal** is enjoying life in NYC as a dancer; highlights from this year include dancing for Nickelodeon, NBC Upfronts, and the *Elf* the Musical national tour. She's been enjoying attending a few weddings and seeing SMS friends—especially, **Carly Sain**, who came to her rescue when she got stuck in Boston while travelling! Back on the west coast, **Sami Rosenthal** is continuing work at Square as an Ops Program Manager and enjoying San Francisco. **Lucy Foster Stevens** is now working in the children's department of Second Presbyterian Church as the elementary coordinator, and **Allie Pryor** is working as a nurse at Le Bonheur ER. She's currently in the process of applying for a new job, though, so best of luck applying, Allie! **Bonnie Hopkins** is still holding down the fort in Memphis and finishing up her MAT in Art Education at Memphis College of Art, where she's set to graduate in January. This is her third year of teaching in the Shelby County Schools, and she's currently

at Charjean Elementary. **Erin Stuart** is in her second year of Ph.D. coursework at Emory and just finished (and hopefully passed!) her Hebrew language comprehensive exam this August. She's also engaged now and having a blast designing and sewing her own wedding dress. **Mary Frances Street** recently moved to Nashville to begin a Master's in Public Policy at Vanderbilt, where she's focusing on K-12 Education Policy. Around coursework, she's also a research assistant working with the National Center for Scaling Up and helping conduct research for a grant program in Broward County, FL that provides Personalization in Academic and Social Learning (PASL). She's enjoying life in Nashville, not least because it means she gets to hang out with **Elise Heuberger Reecer!** **Kendall Hennessy** recently returned to Memphis to work for St. Mary's. She is working in the Advancement Office as an assistant and is already enjoying learning about all aspects of the development world. Finally, **Sahar Mokhtari Moshref** married now-husband Abteen in May with several SMS classmates present to celebrate. Congratulations!



2012

Ellery Ammons  
Chandler Roberts

---

**Ramie Mansberg** is busy in her second year of medical school at the University of Tennessee Health Science Center and looking forward to getting married in December. **Jodie Struminger** has recently started the MBA program at the University of Memphis while still working in Global Brand Management at FedEx. After winning multiple Rising Star awards, she has been asked to participate in a Leadership Edge training course. **Jordan Upton** was recently promoted as the Director of Sales and Marketing for Aromatique Inc. She is enjoying living in Memphis and traveling across North America for work. **Laura Mathews** is training and working as a full time professional triathlete. She qualified for and competed in the Ironman 70.3 World Championships in South Africa in September. **Chandler Roberts** got engaged last summer and is looking forward moving into her new house in Fort Worth, Texas. **Austin Hasenmueller** is

## CLASS NOTES



Chapel speaker Laura Mathews '12 with Sydney Ellen Blen '20



Head of School Albert Throckmorton with Sutton MacQueen '12 at the Young Alumnae Holiday party



Chapel Speaker Abby Huber '14 and classmate Gabrielle Taylor

currently living in Morocco and will be moving to 10 other countries throughout the year. **Alex Buford Ashby** got married last summer and started teaching 5th grade social studies. **Grace Bethell** is living in Birmingham, Ala. working as a Pediatric ICU nurse. **Lauren Petrin** started her 2nd year of law school and will be working at a health care law firm in DC this summer. **Virginia Ellen Mitchell** is enjoying working as a pediatric clinical dietitian at LeBonheur and looking forward to getting married in the spring. **Renee Yang** is graduating with her MBA in December 2018. **Diana Zhou** is attending UTHSC Medical School class of 2022. **Neely Sammons** is living in Miami and working for FedEx as a Marketing Analyst. She loves being able to use her Spanish skills, travelling to the Caribbean, and being a plant mom to her baby ficus named Ben. **Kyra Rice Duffey** was selected to join the Sales and Events team for the Mariner's Museum and Park in Newport News, Va. **Hannah Morehead** has accepted a new job as a buyer with Lockheed Martin and is excited to move to Washington DC. **Amritha Kanakamedala** has started her third year of medical school at Baylor College of Medicine and is looking forward to applying to residency in the next year. **Camille Vaughn** is beginning her fieldwork for occupational therapy school in Richmond, Va. this fall and plans to complete her Masters degree in May 2019. **Alix de Witt** has been living life in Memphis, working, and volunteering her time with her church and Su Casa

Family Ministries. She is also gearing up for Monogram Foods' annual philanthropic fundraiser, Meat Me In Memphis, where she hopes to raise over \$600,000 in one night for children's charities in Monogram's communities of operation. **Melissa Byrd** is continuing to pursue her Masters degree at Columbia University. She was promoted to a Development Specialist at the ALSAC/St. Jude New York City office. **Sarah Tsui** is enjoying living in St. Louis while she attends Physician Assistant School. **Kristen Haltom** is currently working in Memphis as a structural engineer at SSR and enjoys living with her roommate, **Ellery Ammons**, who is still loving living in Memphis and working as a Development Coordinator with the Downtown Memphis Commission. **Lesley Stevenson** traveled to Moscow, Russia this summer to work with NBCUniversal executives and clients at the FIFA World Cup. She's excited to begin serving as a new member of Notre Dame's College of Arts and Letters Advisory Council.

2014

Zara Ali  
Natalie Meeks  
Iqra Siddiq

So many 2014 Turkeys in NYC! **Martha Upton** moved to NYC and is working for an e-commerce startup called Jetblack. **Isabelle Yawn** graduated from Fordham

University in May with a major in finance and is now living in NYC working in midtown as a Client Service Associate at UBS Financial Services. **Natalie Iskander** is living in NYC and working at Credit Suisse in Finance. **Maddie Rhodes** is living in NYC and will graduate from culinary school in January 2019. **Adair Smith** is working for a creative agency called Milk, and is now the Creative Content Manager. She is also the Editorial Manager at No Agency New York. **Miles Schaeffer** is working at Weill Cornell Medicine in NYC as a research programs associate in the Lyden Lab, which studies cancer metastasis. She is working on their grants, specifically their pre-award applications, budgeting and maintaining compliance of their current awards, and closing grant accounts post award. During this time, she is also applying to medical school for the fall of 2019. **Lacey Chaum** graduated from UPenn in May and moved to NYC to work as an Associate for Prophet, a brand strategy consulting firm. **Theresa Green** graduated with a bachelor's in psychology from Carleton College in June and has begun a year of service as an AmeriCorps tutor volunteer at Great Oaks Charter School in NYC. **Phoebe Fulmer** is currently living in Madrid and working in a bilingual primary school as a Language and Culture Assistant teaching 2nd-5th graders English. In July, **Neely Battle** started her job as Creative Design Assistant at Bandai Namco Amusement in Chicago, Ill. She recently traveled to D.C. where she helped open the

## CLASS NOTES

first VR ZONE Portal in the U.S., which includes Mario Kart VR. **Bailey Archey** is in veterinary school at Mississippi State in Starkville, Miss. **Natalie Meeks** and **Elle Prosterman** are both living in Charlottesville, Va. for the year-long Trinity Fellows Program. Natalie is working at the Mayo Center for Asset Management at the University of Virginia's Darden School of Business as their Research and Marketing Intern. Elle is the Community + Care Fellow for New City Counseling, a part of Trinity Presbyterian Church. She plans to pursue a Masters in Counseling after this year. They are loving being in the same city again! **Maddie Droke** living in Little Rock, Ark. and is enjoying working for the department of genetics while she pursues her doctor of audiology through the university of Arkansas for medical sciences. **Katherine Parker** is living in Jackson Hole, Wyo. for the year and is working at Snake River Brewing Company. **Caroline Wellford** moved to Chicago, Ill. this summer and is working at a PR firm called C-Strategies LLC. **Ellen Clarke** is loving Birmingham, Ala. and is working at UBS as a financial analyst for a wealth management team. Upon graduating, **Adira Polite** received a prize awarded annually to the graduating senior with the highest academic record within the department. She now works as a paralegal in Atlanta, where she assists attorneys in the representation of indigent, death-sentenced clients. Adira will soon embark upon the graduate school search; on that note, she was recently selected to attend Brown University's

Graduate Programs Preview Weekend. **Dena Frisch** is back at Tulane this year finishing up her Masters of Accounting. She is also preparing to take the CPA exam to get certified before she starts her career in public accounting next year. **Hallie Katz** lives in LA and works as a content coordinator at Mammoth Media in Santa Monica. She is working on the apps Wishbone and Yarn. **Abby Huber** is serving as an AmeriCorps VISTA for the next year, so she is at Carpenter Art Garden in Memphis. **Nicole Sanford** is back in Memphis this year applying to medical schools. She is working as a Scribe in the Emergency Department at Le Bonheur Children's Hospital and as a research assistant in the Department of Neurosurgery. **Mary Katherine Harris** is living in Memphis and working for GCD Interiors. **Mimi Billings** is working as a credit analyst for Bank3 in Memphis. **Rosemary Dunn** is working as a registered nurse in a Neuro Stepdown Unit at Methodist University Hospital in Memphis. **Ellen Cowens** graduated Magna Cum Laude from Wake Forest University in May with a double major in English and Communication. She now lives in Atlanta, Ga. where she works for Fidelity Bank in their Marketing department. **Gurbani Singh** is also in Atlanta working at SunTrust Robinson Humphrey as an Investment Banking Analyst in the Leveraged Finance group. **Katherine Donovan Dean** recently got married and moved to Atlanta! She will start grad school at Emory for nursing and nurse practitioner in May 2019. **Lizzie Apple** graduated



Savannah Ostner '17 is competing with Southern Methodist University as an equestrian.

from Middlebury this past spring and started her Masters of Divinity at Vanderbilt this fall. She is enjoying time with her new golden doodle puppy, Winnifred (Winnie for short)! **Camille Cowart** is getting her M.Ed. in Reading Education from Vanderbilt and is teaching English at Nashville School of the Arts. **Laura Kate Hamilton**

graduated Magna Cum Laude from George Washington University with a major in International Affairs and minors in International Economics and Art History. She is working for Clifford Chance LLP as a Structured Finance Paralegal in Washington, D.C. **Iqra Siddiq** graduated from Rhodes College in May, with a major in Biology and minors in Chemistry, Religious Studies, and English (Creative Writing). She is currently in her first year of medical school at Arkansas College of Osteopathic Medicine, class of 2022. **Hannah Buser** graduated from Colgate in May and is now working at a healthcare consulting firm in Boston, Mass. **Gabrielle Taylor** graduated from Wellesley College in June. She is working as the West Tennessee Organizer for the Karl Dean for Governor campaign in Memphis while taking a gap year before law school. She went to Beijing for the IMUSE (Initiating Mutual Understanding through Student Exchange) Conference and got an award for public speaking there.

2016

A'Doriann Bradley  
Grace Ugwueke

The St. Mary's Class of 2016 are now college juniors! **Iliana Watson** is continuing summer research in haptics and graphics feedback on touchscreens in the St. Louis Univ. Aerospace and Mechanical Department's CHROME Lab. This technology is being designed with better functionality to help blind and visually impaired users. **A'Doriann Bradley** participated in Howard Univ's Summer Health Professions Education Program. **Mary Elise O'Brien** is chairing the APPLES Service Learning Internship Program. **Grace Ugwueke** chairs Unity Roundtable, an organization unifying leaders across many cultural groups at the Univ. of Miami. **Tobi Akangbe** is enjoying serving as African Student Association secretary and performing as dance captain at St. Louis Univ. **Máire Sweeney** is involved in Tulane's homecoming events and recently completed an internship at Eden House, a non-profit safe house for survivors of human trafficking.

## CLASS NOTES

2018

Olivia Nielsen  
Keith Ellis Prest  
Julia Preston

It's been a busy few months for the Class of 2018! **Isra Ahmed** joined the pre-dentistry society at Washington University and is also a member of the Muslim student association on campus. **Baker Baine** joined Tri Delta and studies at the University of South Carolina. **Chelsey Chen** spent the summer conducting research at the University of Memphis Department of Biomedical Engineering. She participated in a "Hackathon," and is currently has a job as a research assistant in the neurology department at Johns Hopkins University. **Caroline Ciaramitaro** participated in an Outward Bound sailing and backpacking trip to Maine this summer. She has a social entrepreneurship organization "Build the Hill," and is a member of the Audience Experience team for TedXUNC. She also joined Kappa Delta at the University of North Carolina Chapel Hill. **Claire Daniel** pledged Kappa Kappa Gamma at the University of Georgia. Before starting classes at the University of Tennessee Knoxville this fall, **Lauren Davis** spent her summer at an internship for Medtronic. She has now joined the Pride of the Southland Marching band at the University of Tennessee. **Hattie Fogarty** traveled to France this summer with her sister, Claire Fogarty '13. Hattie plays for the Sewanee lacrosse team and works for the campus radio station. **Elena Hanissian** is also working at the Sewanee campus radio station and has joined an all-girls acapella group. **Savanna Grinspun** was accepted into the Glee Club at the University of Pennsylvania and will travel with them this upcoming summer to East Asia for their annual tour. **Allison Hesselberg** is currently studying at the University of Wisconsin Madison, where she is an active member of the taekwondo club. **Olivia House** continues to play for the Rhodes College soccer team. **Jenna Joshi** is studying neuroscience Georgia Tech, where she has joined Alpha Gamma Delta. **Anna Rose LaMountain** is on the pre-med track at Loyola Chicago and is deciding between a theology, philosophy, or English major. She's also an active

member of the Rambler Outdoors club. **Evie Laney** recently joined Tri Delta and studies communicative disorders at the University of Alabama. **Olivia Lawrence** spent her summer working at St. Mary's Pursuits Camp. She has pledged Kappa Alpha Theta and is studying engineering at the University of Alabama in the Honors College. **Samantha Lee** traveled to Ireland over the summer with her family, including sisters Madeleine '15 and Claire '20. **Jessica Lewis** was a counselor at Henry S. Jacobs Camp this summer. Since beginning her studies at UNC Chapel Hill, she has joined the Carolina Athletic Association and Sigma Rho Lambda. **Mallory Macdonald** pledged Gamma Phi Beta and is following the Pre-Med track at Texas Christian University. **Hannah Matthews** plans to major in international relations at William and Mary, where she recently joined Kappa Alpha Theta. **Sam McCann** is currently at New York University studying psychology and creative writing in the Gallatin School of Individualized Study. **Ellie McGhee** spent her summer hiking through the Grand Canyon and Yellowstone National Park. She is currently studying biochemistry at the University of Notre Dame. **Adalyn Meeks** is training to become a tour guide at Purdue University. She has also recently joined a Women in Engineering recruitment team. Before starting classes at Columbia College Chicago this fall, **Livia Overton** performed in twelve different cities while on tour this summer. **Stuart Monaghan** and **Grace Murray** recently pledged Tri Delta at Texas Christian University. **Lily Monroe** went abroad to study Mandarin Chinese and Chinese culture through NSLI-Y, a state department funded a scholarship for the summer. **Elsie Morrow** is studying engineering at the University of Tennessee. **Lauren Moore** and **Madeleine O'Toole** were elected senator and honor council representative, respectively, at Rhodes College. Madeleine has also joined Rhodes' first-ever co-ed acapella group and started an internship at Memphis Tilt. **Nayla Nassif** spent the summer in Lebanon studying Lebanese Arabic. **Sydney Nichols** is planning on traveling to Sicily for study abroad in January 2019. She is currently studying English and art history at the University of Arkansas. **Olivia Nielsen** is double majoring in human development



Olivia and Paige Nielsen '18 celebrating their last days in Memphis before heading off to college.

and learning and English at the honors college of the University of Memphis. She's also a team leader for her St. Jude 'Up 'til Dawn' fundraising team. **Paige Nielsen** is involved with the dance marathon and freshmen pull team at Hope College. **Keith Ellis Prest** joined Tri Delta and is currently studying media arts at the University of South Carolina. **Julia Preston** was accepted into the University of Virginia's flagship chamber choir and joined First Year Players, a freshman theatre organization. **Evelyn Roberts** is tirelessly training with her lacrosse team at the University of Richmond. **Grace Sammarco** started working at Muddy's Grindhouse over the summer. **Sneha Sharma** serves on the leadership boards of the Daily Pennsylvanian, Global Impact Collaborative, IMPACT social impact publication, and many other organizations at the University of Pennsylvania. **Sabrina Spence** is on the executive board of Black Anthology, the largest and oldest cultural performance at Washington University in St. Louis. She has also started an internship with Adolphus Press, an online literary journal and micro-press. **Kyra Tennyson** has recently pledged Pi Beta Phi and joined the Hospital Relations Committee for University of Georgia Miracle. At last, but certainly not least, **Martha Kay Williams** has recently pledged Kappa Kappa Gamma at the University of Alabama. Who knows what else the Class of 2018 will accomplish before the end of our first college semester?

## MILESTONES

### Postgraduate Degrees

#### Meg Fowler '08

Doctor of Jurisprudence and Master of Science in Finance, Vanderbilt Law School and Vanderbilt's Owen Graduate School of Management

#### Katie Camille Friedman '06

Doctor of Philosophy in Environmental Sciences and Engineering  
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

#### Callie McCool '10

Doctor of Medicine  
Baylor College of Medicine

### Marriages

#### Alex Buford '12

to Kyle Ashby, June 30, 2018

#### Caitlin Colcolough '07

to Caleb Williams, September 15, 2018

#### Jan Holmes Crosby '80

to Rick Griffith, June 11, 2018

#### Katherine Donovan '14

to Luke Dean, October 27, 2018

#### Katherine Arnold Gatza '95

to Stephen Zenus, June 30, 2018

#### Natalie Hartmann '04

to Michael Malone, October 20, 2018

#### Holly Hendrix '06

to Neal Vitalis, May 12, 2018

#### Elliott Machin '06

to Jonathan Cooper, August 4, 2018

#### Sahar Mokhtari '10

to Abteen Moshref, May 19, 2018

#### Kimi Nathani '08

to Mit Patel, September 8, 2018

#### Nayha Patel '08

to Zubin Shetty, May 27, 2018



Classmates from Class of 2006 celebrate at the wedding of Holly Hendrix Vitalis: Elize Mercer, Elliott Machin Cooper, Ellen Bransford, Holly, Chandler Ford, Lauren Bunch and Neelam Khan Ali.



Sahar Mokhtari Moshref '10 at her wedding with: Carey Segal '10, Wallis Tosi '09, Mary Stevenson '10, Allie Pryor '10, Sahar, Sophia Mokhtari '17, Nica Cabigao Graunke '10, Margaret Frisby '08, and Hannah Huber



Class of 2007 at the wedding of Mary Grace McQuiston Arehart. F: Rachael Brown Nolan, Maddy Pryor, Mary Grace, Mary Dickinson Plosser, Ann Atkinson Schnuerer, Virginia Dickinson LaSala. B: Samantha Polly, Kate Foster Lindsey, Suzanne Ray Margello, Hallie Flanagan, Brittain West, Caitlin Colcolough Williams, Melissa Graunke Decosimo, Cameron Colcolough Reynolds, and Allie Stephens Eick

## MILESTONES



Class of 2011 with Allyson Patterson Dalton '11 at her wedding: Lucy Wade Shapiro, Margaret McClintock, Teresa Hendrix Daniel, Evan Dalton, Allyson, Shelby Chambliss Pascal, Meg Cornaghie, and Anna Morten



Colin Edmundson with his bride Elizabeth Womack Edmundson '07, her parents, Marlin and Catherine Robilio Womack '82, and brother, Chip Womack



Alums and friends celebrate at the wedding of Sarah Wortham Nielsen '08.

### Marriages (Cont.)

**Allyson Patterson '11**  
to Evan Dalton, July 14, 2018

**Sara Phillips '11**  
to Cody Johnson, September 8, 2018

**Kate Prascher '01**  
to Marcus Cavanaugh, July 15, 2018

**Mary Greer Simonton '08**  
to Peter Gorman, September 2, 2018

**Elizabeth Stevenson '04**  
to Aaron Brenner, June 30, 2018

**Vi West '03**  
to Andrew Williams, October 6, 2018

**Elizabeth Womack '07**  
to Colin Edmundson, May 12, 2018

**Sarah Wortham '08**  
to Gus Nielsen, April 28, 2018

**Allie Williams '11**  
to Jed Borovik, August 11, 2018

### Births/Adoptions

Jude Theodore Bell to  
**Lauren Arnold Bell '04**  
June 29, 2018

Thomas Kelso Brennan to  
**Kemper Kelso Brennan '01**  
September 8, 2018

Carolyn Elizabeth Calkins to  
**Elizabeth Batchelor Calkins '05**  
October 18, 2018

James David Clapper to  
**Lisa Ansley Clapper '00**  
January 16, 2018

Linda Cecilia (Cece) to  
**Lizzy Rhea Cook '05**  
September 18, 2018

# MILESTONES



Stephen Peter LaSala, Jr. born  
July 9, 2018 to Virginia  
Dickinson LaSala '07.

Emma Dixon Padalka to

**Ellis Dixon '00**

August 24, 2018

Alden James Farnsworth to

**Kristine New Farnsworth '00**

September 1, 2018

John Douglas Finlay to

**Weezie Cannon Finlay '05**

July 28, 2018

Kathryn "Ryn" Louise Herrington to

**Mary-Kathryn Millner**

**Herrington '00**

October 18, 2018

Rest Baker Heppenstall III to

**Jessie Wilson Heppenstall '05**

August 7, 2018

Lake Ballard Jindrak to

**Lauren Hinson '99**

August 10, 2018

Henry Hudson Jaqua to

**Kaitlin Ridder Jaqua '04**

January 23, 2018

Kathryn Jill Kropinak to

**Kellyn Griffith Kropinak '99**

May 11, 2108

John Walker Mahaffey to

**Sophie Skouteris Mahaffey '13**

October 30, 2018

Walter Andrew Malwitz to

**Elizabeth Jemison '04**

December 26, 2017

Mila Rose Mauer to

**Laura Hettinger '02**

November 2, 2018

Ayanda Langa to

**Lara Kriegel '86**

November 6, 2017

Stephen Peter LaSala, Jr. to

**Virginia Dickinson LaSala '07**

July 9, 2018

Ronen Baker Lyon to

**Melissa Arnold Lyon '06**

September 14, 2018

William Neely Mallory V to

**Kate Smith Mallory '07**

June 7, 2018

Lahya Nur Hussain to

**Anum Minhas '05**

August 30, 2018

Erin Avery Morich to

**Victoria Luke Morich '04**

January 23, 2018

Jonah Gregory Myers to

**Catie Jane Berger Myers '05**

August 30, 2018

Hayes Buckner Rose to

**Susan Buckner Rose '01**

September 25, 2018

Mary Evelyn Stone to

**Lauren Anderson Stone '01**

October 3, 2018

John Martin Wagner to

**Hallie Bourland Wagner '95**

May 17, 2018

Poppy Louise Wills to

**Carrie Lawson Wills '00**

May 6, 2018

## Professional Updates

**Anna Bearman '07**

Gallery showing, Jay Etkin Gallery

**Katie Brookoff '05**

Cartoons published in *The Southampton Review*

**Caitlin Clark '07**

Internal Medicine Resident, Case Western Reserve University at MetroHealth Hospital

**Martha Gillon '07**

US State Department, Bamako, Mali

**Mary Helene Lee Hamlin '68**

Community Service Medal, Riverside County, CA Sheriff's Department

**Liz Jenkins '95**

Chief Financial Officer, Hello Sunshine (Reese Witherspoon's media company)

**Elizabeth Jetton '73**

2018 Heart of Financial Planning Award

**Nora Kahn '05**

Clerk for Judge Andrew J. Guilford  
U.S. District Court for the Central District of California

**Sarah Lacey '94**

*Inc.* Magazine's list of 100 Top Female Founders "building the most exciting businesses in America"

**Cory Yandell Lewis '07**

Licensed Clinical Social Worker (LCSW)

**Lauren Lieberman '07**

Attorney, Winston and Straun

**Anum Minhas '05**

Cardiology fellow, Johns Hopkins University Hospital

## MILESTONES

### Professional Updates (Cont.)

**Susan Hearn Morgan '90**

Assistant Dean, UT College  
of Pharmacy

**Sarah Kramer Ozbun '08**

Group Sales and Operations Assistant  
Manager, Chawla Hotels

**Alexandra Mims Pike '07**

Postdoctoral Fellow  
Department of Biology at MIT

**Jamie Morano Re '94**

Associate Professor of Infectious Diseases  
and International Medicine  
University of South Florida

**Brandon Garrett Morrison '83**

Elected as Shelby County Commissioner  
of District 13

**Tami Sawyer '00**

Elected as Shelby County Commissioner  
of District 7, named to *Ebony* Magazine's  
Power 100, & *Memphis Business Journal*  
"Top 40 Under 40"

**Bron Gayna Schmidt '73**

Simpson Elementary named a National  
Blue Ribbon School of Excellence

**Nessa Steinberg '15**

University of Illinois Homecoming  
Court comprised of student leaders

**Allison E. Tonkin MD '87**

Associate Medical Director for Quality  
and Safety Imaging Services  
Intermountain Healthcare

**Bailey Wilson Vitez '07**

Senior Cost Analyst  
Turner Construction

**Courtney Routt Worthman '00**

Opened the NYC office of Burns  
Entertainment

### In Memoriam



**Harriette Mathewes  
Beeson '53**



**Adele Tate '67**



**Nancy Howard  
Page '82**



**Catherine Jenny  
Clark '87**



# Coming Soon



## ST. MARY'S EPISCOPAL SCHOOL

**In 2020, St. Mary's Episcopal School, in partnership with Church of the Holy Communion, will open our brand new 60,000 square foot Athletic and Wellness Center. State-of-the-art features include:**

- **Gymnasium** with a regulation-sized 94 foot court, divisible into two 84 foot courts, to be used for practices and games. The space will accommodate larger fitness and health classes, allowing more time and flexibility in scheduling classes for both Upper and Middle Schools.
- **Grandstand** to seat 600 spectators with additional seating for 300, enabling us to hold all-school pep rallies and special events.
- **Concession Stand** to offer snacks and refreshments during games and a permanent home for Gobble Gear, our spirit store.
- **Connector** from the new building to the Taylor Building, comfortably furnished for students to meet, study, and relax during the school day.
- **Dining Hall** to seat up to 300 students with outdoor patio for fair-weather dining and viewing events on the track and field.
- **Fitness Complex** on the first level to include strength and conditioning equipment, indoor turf, a classroom for yoga, health, and movement, and a training room for prevention, treatment, and rehabilitation of athletic related injuries.
- **History Gallery** with an interactive timeline to honor St. Mary's rich 170+ year history.
- **Two Classrooms** to serve our growing Middle and Upper School community.



ST. MARY'S EPISCOPAL SCHOOL

60 Perkins Extended

Memphis, Tennessee 38117-3199

Non-profit  
Organization  
U.S. Postage

**PAID**  
Memphis, TN  
Permit No. 810

# ALUMNAE WEEKEND

FRIDAY AND SATURDAY  
APRIL 12-13, 2019

Breaking New Ground

— SINCE 1847 —

ST. MARY'S  
EPISCOPAL SCHOOL

[stmarysschool.org/alumnae/alumnae-weekend](http://stmarysschool.org/alumnae/alumnae-weekend)