

ST. MARY'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
N · E · W · S · L · E · T · T · E · R

October 2014
The Season after Pentecost

Little (St. Mary's) Free Library is Born

Ennion Williams, who has served St. Mary's Church since his youth, as vestryman, trustee of the property, and keeper of the master plan for the churchyard, is also a master woodworker. After seeing a roadside "Little Free Library" box elsewhere, Ennion drew up plans and built a model of our historic Little St. Mary's that would become a registered site for the growing free library movement.

Built from scrap lumber from the old church rescued during the 1998 refurbishing of the original buildings, as well as from walnut from Tuckahoe Plantation, the little library now resides outside the parish office. See page [15](#) for details concerning its use. Many thanks to Ennion for offering yet another gift of love to our parish.



St. Mary's Episcopal Church

Dover Parish in the Diocese of Virginia
12291 River Road
Richmond, VA 23238

Telephone: (804)784-5678 Fax: (804) 784-1940
E-Mail Address: info@stmarysgoochland.org
Website: www.stmarysgoochland.org
St. Mary's School Telephone: (804) 784-2049

Episcopal Leadership

The Archbishop of Canterbury
The Most Rev. and Rt. Honorable Justin Welby
The Presiding Bishop of the Episcopal Church
The Most Rev. Katharine Jefferts Schori
The Bishop of Virginia
The Right Rev. Shannon Sherwood Johnston
The Bishop Suffragan
The Right Rev. Susan E. Goff
Assistant Bishop
The Right Rev. Edwin F. Gulick, Jr.

The Parish Staff

Rector	The Rev. Dr. John E. Miller
Associate Rector	The Rev. Eleanor L. Wellford
Priest Associate	The Rev. David H. Knight
Minister to Children & Youth	The Rev. Kristopher D. Adams
Nursery Director	Meg Zehmer
Organist & Choirmaster	W. Dwight Graham
Parish Administrator	Gina M. Alexander
Parish Secretary	Lori R. Smiley
Parish Sexton	Paul E. Pace
Assistant Sexton	Gersain Agudelo

The Parish Vestry

Senior Warden	Peggy Talman
Junior Warden	Richard G. Lundvall
Treasurer	Howard E. Cobb
Register	Michelle D. Lewis

Class of 2015
Dede Andrews
Constance R. Bowden
Peggy Talman
C. Kemper Wharton

Class of 2016
William K. Gooch
Michelle D. Lewis
Richard G. Lundvall
Benjamin A. Weimer, Jr.

Class of 2016
Scott Barton
Jane DuFrane
Steve Guza
Brantley Holmes

From the Parish Register:

Transfers In:

- 01 September 2014 James Michael Ireland from St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, Richmond, VA
- 01 September 2014 Brook Martin Ireland from St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, Richmond, VA
- 01 September 2014 James Michael Ireland, Jr. from St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, Richmond, VA
- 01 September 2014 Briggs Martin Ireland from St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, Richmond, VA
- 01 September 2014 Bowen Miller Ireland from St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, Richmond, VA

Transfers Out:

- 02 September 2014 Jean Davis Miller to Good Shepherd Episcopal Church, Venice, FL
- 15 September 2014 Thomas Rutherford Ferguson to St. James's Episcopal Church, Richmond, VA

Weddings

- 30 August 2014 Alden Elizabeth Ramsey and Gary William McDaniel
- 20 September 2014 Thomas Frederick Leftwich, III and Kara Ashley Kirstein

Burials

- 04 September 2014 Kate Carrington Mangum
- 06 September 2014 Helen Thomas Roberts

REQUESTING NOMINATIONS FROM THE PARISH TO SERVE ON THE VESTRY

The outgoing Vestry class of 2014 is charged with nominating four candidates to serve on the Vestry.

If you are interested or if you would like to nominate someone from the parish please forward your/their name to Lori Smiley at info@stmarysgoochland.org and please place Vestry Nomination in the subject line or call 784.5678.

On this Rock

*A Sermon for the 11th Sunday after Pentecost
Proper 16 – Year A – 24 August 2014*

John Edward Miller
Rector

When Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?" And they said, "Some say John the Baptist, but others Elijah, and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets." He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" Simon Peter answered, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God." And Jesus answered him, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven. And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven." Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah. – Matthew 16:13-20

The Collect

Grant, O merciful God, that your Church, being gathered together in unity by your Holy Spirit, may show forth your power among all peoples, to the glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

For many months the disciples had been witnesses to healings and miracles performed by their master, and they had heard him preach and teach about the transforming power of God's love. Jesus and his disciples had shared a common mission that reached out to the poor, the outcast, and the sick. As his ministry gained followers, Jesus was attracting the attention of the ruling authorities. Danger was increasing with every act of compassion Jesus offered to those whom society regarded as undesirable and indecent.

The moment that Matthew memorializes for us occurs at a point of no return for the teacher from Nazareth and his disciples. Jesus was about to cross the spiritual Rubicon by heading toward the heart of darkness that was Roman-occupied Jerusalem. From this point on, he would tell was going to suffer at the hands of religious and secular leaders. Jesus put them on notice that there would be a final showdown with the principalities and powers in the holy city. Jesus began to speak of his own death, and he foretold that he would then be raised from the dead on the third day. These were difficult ideas to digest, but they had to be. It was high

time for a loyalty check among his followers.

As they entered the territory of Caesarea Philippi, a beautiful Roman city adorned with impressive architecture, Jesus likely signaled for his entourage to stop near the magnificent Temple of Caesar Augustus. Herod the Great had commissioned the temple to honor the Roman emperor under whose aegis he served as a puppet ruler. The emperor, who had been born Octavian, had taken the name Augustus in an act of self-glorification; he reveled in being called "the great one." Moreover, Caesar Augustus had been deified; he was worshipped as the "son of God." So his temple celebrated his so-called "divinity."

For Jews the elevation of a mere man to god-status, regardless of his power or authority, was more than just ludicrous; it was idolatry, the sin of claiming divinity for anything or anyone other than the one true God. With this blasphemy so near his path, it is altogether possible that Jesus realized that this was a moment of truth for his companions. The contrast between mortal Caesars and the living God is infinite. The Augustan Age of Roman domination was impressive by the world's standards, but it paled in comparison to the power and glory of God.

Maybe Jesus paused with that pagan edifice as his backdrop. Its presence raised the question, which Lord would they would serve? He then fired his famous questions at his disciples. "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?" he asked. His students were on the spot; they had to come up with something good, something significant to say. After a little throat clearing and beard scratching, a few voices replied, "Some say that you are John the Baptist come back to life!" and "Other people believe that you are Elijah, or Jeremiah, or one of the other prophets miraculously reanimated by God." Those answers seemed safe enough. As reports of what "they say," the responses didn't reflect any personal investment or cost. But the stakes were so high at that juncture, when all of their lives were on the line, that he couldn't let them get away with third-person reports. So he put everything on the line with a question that they couldn't evade. He asked them squarely, "But who do *you* say that I am?"

Peter was known as a man of action; he did things "immediately," jumping in where others feared to get involved. His motto could well have been: "He who hesitates is lost." Thus when Jesus turned to his disciples and asked

them to declare what they thought of him, Peter was the first to answer. Once the question was posed, as if one cue, he blurted out, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God!"

Peter had uttered the truth. He did so in spite of himself, because he was never known to be a great thinker, or a man of deep insight. Among the first leaders of the church, it was John, and later Paul, who had those credentials. Peter was a fisherman who hauled in his catch with nets; he lived by his physical strength rather than his spiritual gifts. So his quick response, which got it so right, was out of keeping with his normal mode of being. His statement of belief was beyond him, but it was his nevertheless. And he said out loud what others might have been thinking but they were too timid and too uncertain to say.

Jesus must have smiled; in fact he may have laughed in joy that it was Peter who actually came out and said it. He knew the fisherman well, and if he was capable of seeing him as he was, then surely the others would grasp it as well. We can imagine Jesus embracing Peter by his broad shoulders and saying, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven. And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it."

Jesus praised Peter's faith with those now famous words. With them he blessed the disciple's openness and trust that enabled the big fisherman to identify Jesus as God's messiah. In that pivotal moment of recognition and commitment we have been given a model for Christian belief, plus a foundation for the Church itself. Without Peter's confession that his rabbi is the Son of the living God none of us would ever have ever heard of Jesus, much less have been here today in St. Mary's Church two thousand years later. For in that moment both Jesus and Peter were standing on the bedrock of faith so solid that no force of evil can ever destroy it.

"You are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church," said Jesus. The disciples must have looked at one another in amazement, for they heard what we cannot hear in English. Jesus' blessing was a play on words, and they were wondering whether their master had just told them a joke at Peter's expense. In Greek, he had said, "You are *Petros* (Peter), and on this *petra* (stone) I will build my church." *Petros*, which is a masculine noun and name, refers to a rock, a small piece of stone. In effect, the big fisherman was called, "Rocky," a nickname that might imply thickness as well as strength. Think Rocky Balboa, for instance. On the other hand, *petra*, which is a feminine noun, means a stone formation – a massive rock that cannot be moved. Now think El Capitan in Yosemite National Park. The difference between the two terms can hardly be greater. *Petros* the disciple was no *petra*. In biblical Greek only Jesus, or God the Creator, is ever described as *petra*.

But this word play was not a joke. Jesus was not making fun of Peter.

On the contrary, he was singling him out for this blessing. The question is why? It had to have been more than a reward for a good answer. It wasn't as if Peter had said the secret

word and was winning the \$100 prize, a la Groucho Marx. Big Rocky was neither that lucky nor that witty. The blessing was surely based on something else, something beyond Peter's personal resources. Jesus gave him something in that power-packed moment. That gift was, and is, our one foundation.

And yet, here is where the church is entrenched in disagreement. We do not agree about the gift. So it's a good thing that Jesus is the builder, and the one who places the church on a foundation of his choosing, because if it were left to us, the church would be on an even more unstable footing than it appears to be.

One view takes a literal approach to the gift and argues that Jesus has passed the torch to his chief disciple Peter, whom he blesses and calls "the rock." In other words, this scene was like an ordination, a sacramental act wherein Jesus lays hands on Peter and transfers his authority to the one man who has confessed him as Christ, the Messiah. This ritual thereby makes the church associated with Peter *the* church, the repository of Christ's power. The hierarchy and sacraments of that church become essential to being Christian, and in time, certain of its teachings would be regarded as infallible.

Another view protests that it was neither the choice of Peter, nor the act of authorizing him as head of the church, that constitutes the gift. Instead, it is his confession of faith, his believing in Jesus as Messiah, that his teacher was praising. The gift of Christ Jesus is the grace of recognition and the courage to name, and take a solid stand with, the Son of the Living God. Confession of faith, rather than sacraments and structures, was the rock upon which Christ would build his church. This view of the decisive moment became the standard position of the Protestant Reformers in the 16th century.

And here we are – Episcopalians who stand on ground that is neither of the extremes, but contains elements of both views. We inherit and promote a "middle way," based on Scripture and tradition. And we depend on the grace of God for guidance through, and the redemption of, our life. This is the gift: that God loves us, and supports us, and makes us whole, despite the fact that we do not merit what God is constantly giving. From this perspective of eternal love we can see that Peter is everyman; he is you and I.

Peter, the rolling stone, the unstable block (blockhead?) confessed Jesus as Messiah. By the grace of God, and at the right time, the truth penetrated his thick skull and he shouted it out. And at that moment Jesus knew that his friend Rocky, *Petros*, had put on the *petra* – had put on Christ, and that saved him and the church from stumbling. To Peter, the one whose doubt caused him to sink like a stone as he walked toward him on the water, the one who would deny even knowing Jesus three times as his Teacher faced execution, the one whom Paul would rebuke as two-faced in his dealings with Gentile converts, Jesus promised to give the keys to the kingdom – the keys of binding and loosing, His faith had overcome the obstacle that he himself was. Peter had become who he was intended to be.

He exclaimed, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living

God!” Thank God he said it. And that is exactly what we should say. Thank *God*, and no one else. As Jesus said to Peter, “flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven.” This was a revelation, not an insight or a correct answer. God made it happen, disclosing to an ordinary man an extraordinary truth. Peter remained fallible and dense, but with the help of God he persevered to the end, and endured an ignominious death for the sake of Jesus, the Messiah, the Son of the Living God. We have received his testimony; we confess our faith, even as we confess our sins. For we too do things that we should not have done, and have left undone those things that we should have done. And, as our forebears had the wisdom to admit, “there is no health in us.”

Neither we, nor Peter, nor Paul, nor Mary, nor Joseph, nor Mother Teresa, nor Martin King, nor any other disciple, has the ability, in and of himself, to know Christ and make him known in word and deed. That power is beyond our reach, but it is given to us freely. Peter’s simplicity was his real strength; it made him open and receptive to Jesus, and he knew him.

That was enough. God’s grace is sufficient to fill the gaps and the cracks in our rocky ways. Though we often are petrified to risk our lives for his sake, God can make us be who we ought to be: his solid stone, his foundation for the future.

In the Name of God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Let it be. Amen.

SCHEDULE FOR LAY WORSHIP ASSISTANTS
9:00 a.m. Service—Little St. Mary’s—October 2014

Date	Service	Ushers	LEM	Lay Reader	Prayer Leader
Oct 5	Holy Eucharist I	Anne Lower & Wally Stettinius	Martha Rhodes	Elizabeth Baskin	Martha Rhodes
Oct 12	Holy Eucharist I	Susan Bance	Jackie Mason		Jackie Mason
Oct 19	Holy Eucharist I			Pam Loree	Suzie Salsitz
Oct 26	Holy Eucharist I		Robin Lind		Robin Lind
Nov 2	Holy Eucharist I ***End DST***		Jackie Mason		Jackie Mason

11:00 a.m. Service—New St. Mary’s—October 2014

Date	Service	Ushers	LEM	Lay Reader	Prayer Leader
Oct 5	Holy Eucharist II	Susan Stevens & Temple Cabell	Marilynn Ware	Patricia Plaisted	Lisa Powell
Oct 12	Morning Prayer	Pam Loree			Marshall Bowden
Oct 19	Holy Eucharist I & Holy Baptism	Burke McCormick	Sydna Street	Lawrence Croft	Tracey Ragsdale
Oct 26	Holy Baptism	Tammi & Clyde Toms Eva & Gilbert Bryson			
Nov 2	Holy Eucharist I ***End DST***			Martha Rhodes	Marshall Bowden

Love and the Pursuit of English Tea Biscuits

*A Sermon for the 15th Sunday after Pentecost
Proper 20 – Year A – 21 September 2014*

David H. Knight,
Priest Associate

With gratitude and humble trust we bring our best to thee to serve thy cause and share thy love with all humanity. O thou who gavest us thyself in Jesus Christ thy Son, help us to give ourselves each day until life's work is done.

My text this morning is from Mathew's Gospel, that familiar passage in which Jesus says, "*For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.*" (Matthew 6:21)

Some years ago about this time of year, a young man was beginning his first semester in graduate school. He was excited about pursuing his studies yet on this particular day, he was, perhaps, even more excited about what had happened a few months earlier. In July, he had met the love of his life. Now this was a young man who did not make hasty decisions. The couple had had their first date on a Sunday night in mid July after having been working together for several weeks in a summer job. That night he knew that there was a question he would have to ask her, yet he did not want to come across as being too forward so he asked her if she would like to go out again the following Friday night for dinner. She agreed. Not being one to rush into things, he waited. He waited—Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, all day Friday, taking all the time necessary before asking her that question. Friday night came. At dinner in a nice restaurant in Philadelphia, after all those days of preparation, it was now time for the important question. And so he asked her, "Will you marry me?" She said yes. They became quietly engaged that night, later announcing their engagement. Two years later they would be married. Being in love, this young man would do anything to bring her joy. Somewhere, he had learned that she loved English tea biscuits. He didn't even know what an English tea biscuit was, but he knew he had to find them to send to her at college here in Virginia. And so on this day he went in search for English tea biscuits. He set out on his search. He went to store after store. Nobody seemed to have them. Finally, he came to a gourmet shop that had them. They came presented in a beautiful tin canister and that canister was expensive. No matter. Delighted with his find, he bought the English tea biscuits and left the store elated. These were for the love of his life and nothing would stop him from giving them to her. 46

years later, I still remember the joy of finding those English tea biscuits for Jeannie. Where my heart was, there my treasure followed. Each of you, I'm sure, could share a similar story from your experience.

It is true that where our heart is, there our treasure will follow, yet Jesus put an interesting twist on this notion. He said that where our treasure is, there our heart will be also. It works both ways. We put our efforts and our money where our heart is, yet we also find that our heart follows where we put our money.

Some time ago, our own Charlie Bryan, who has had a lot of experience with fund raising for charitable organizations, wrote a column in the Richmond Times Dispatch in which he cited four reasons why Americans give of their money.

He talks first about *forced giving* in which donors are pressured by others into making gifts rather than by initiation those gifts themselves. Guilt can be used as a tactic. For example, "If you don't give, the organization will not survive. He cites that forced giving may work in the short run but it is best to avoid this tactic. Think about it for a moment; do you and I find much joy in giving to a deficit budget?

Then there is *vanity giving*. That's when you and I give in hopes of achieving recognition. It can be a real motivator.

Then there is *duty-bound*, or *obligatory giving*. The donor feels a responsibility to give to something that has had a positive influence upon one's life or has helped relieve suffering, either one's own, or that of others. This kind of giving is often associated with a donor's support of an alma mater or one's church. It can be a positive and worthwhile motivator.

Then there is *inspirational giving* which, Charlie says, is usually the most generous and exciting form of giving. Inspirational giving is often in response to new initiatives or to a sense that what they are giving to is something that is not just surviving but is thriving and making a difference in people's lives, open to innovation and new ideas while preserving tradition. Inspirational giving, we would hope is a motivator for each of us to give to our church, for as we read in Paul's second letter to the Church gathered in Corinth, "Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver." (2 Corinthians 9:7)

Some years ago, I attended a week at the College of Preachers at the National Cathedral led by Bishop Bill Stough who was then Stewardship Officer for the Episcopal Church. The course dealt with the subject of preaching stewardship from the pulpit. He told us that Episcopalians are some of the most generous givers on the planet when it comes to schools, foundations, hospitals, and many charities, but that Episcopalians are among the least generous givers when it comes to giving to their church. Why? Because, he said, conversations about money are often avoided in many Episcopal churches. Talking about money becomes the elephant in the middle of the room. Often clergy think that if we talk about money from the pulpit, people will be offended and we will become the proverbial skunk at a lawn party. But it doesn't have to be that way, he said. We spent the week looking at ways to talk about money as part of our responsibility as preachers and as pastors. Then there was Bishop Alexander Stewart of Western Massachusetts, who knew human anatomy well, who once remarked in his own crispy manner of speaking that the most sensitive nerve in the human body is the nerve that connects the heart to the pocket book. A couple of years ago, Clif Christopher, author of the book, *Not your Parents' Offering Plate*, a book which we have studied here at St. Mary's, spoke at our Diocesan Council. He said that clergy need to know who the givers are. Any other way, he said, is foolish. Preaching involves dealing with how we use our money as a spiritual matter. Jesus himself knew that well. In the gospels alone, he talks about money more than about any other subject—more than 36 times.

"For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."

I simply want to share with you about what our pledge means to Jeannie and to me as only one example. You will have your own story to tell. This is what seems to work for us: We have always tried to make a pledge that is a meaningful proportion of our income. In making our pledge to the church, not only is that pledge where our heart is but we also find that in turn, our heart follows where our money goes. Our current pledge is about 11% of my cash salary not counting benefits. It is a joy for us to make a pledge to St. Mary's. It comes out of our gratitude for what the church has always meant to Jeannie and to me, in good times and in difficult times. And then recently, we have had an interesting experience that gives us some further insight into what Jesus has said. We have made a pledge to the campaign at Virginia Seminary to build the new Chapel for the Ages to replace the seminary chapel destroyed by fire in October of 2010. Our pledge is to be paid over five years. Every month we feel it when the long arm of the seminary reaches automatically into our bank account. I can tell you that every time now we are in the northern Virginia area, we stop by VTS to see the progress of that new chapel. There's also a videocam on the VTS website where you can check progress 24-7 on our computer. Do I check it daily? You bet! We have discovered once again that Jesus was on to something when he said that where our treasure is going, so go our

hearts as well! It's a joy to see that new chapel rise from the ashes. It is a joy to be part of that and we sure want to see where our money is going! The evidence is conclusive that God wants you and me to experience joy in our giving.

And so, some questions for you and me to ponder as we think about returning thanks to God through our pledge for this coming year to the mission and ministry of St. Mary's Church:

Have you and I thought—seriously thought—about why we give, and why we make our gift in the form of a pledge to St. Mary's Church?

What does St. Mary's mean to you and to me? How, for example, has St. Mary's improved the quality of your life, the quality of my life? Has St. Mary's been there for you and for me at a time in our lives that made a difference, either during a celebration or during a tough time or crisis? Has St. Mary's been there for us in ways in which other places where we put our money may not have been there for us simply because the church provides things we cannot receive elsewhere? Then follows the question, "How can I do my part with my generous gift to empower St. Mary's not just to survive but to thrive and move forward?"

Do you and I find joy in making our gift to St. Mary's? When you and I give out of an abundance of gratitude, it will feel right and good. When you and I give cheerfully and until it feels good, there is joy to be had. I think you and I know the difference.

There's something else. When our giving is a generous and joyful act we also find that we become more engaged in the life and ministry of the parish. That engagement of each of us in turn brings increased vitality to our common life for when the church is doing what Christ is calling us to do, we will not have money issues because we have given generously. If we love the Lord and if we believe that our lives are changed for the better here at St. Mary's the money we give and our engagement in the life of the parish will serve to strengthen our common life as we strive to be about Christ's mission in this part of his vineyard. And the good news, folks, is that there is plenty of money out in these here woods. It's all in our wallets, yours and mine, waiting to be offered joyfully in support of the mission and ministry of St. Mary's Church.

You and I have been given a gift. As recipients of this gift of St. Mary's to us, what is our grateful response then to be? May your giving and my giving come forth, not reluctantly or under compulsion, but with gratitude in our hearts, for God loves a cheerful giver. And now,

A world in need now summons us to labor, love and give; to make our life an offering to God that all may live; the church of Christ is calling us to make the dream come true; a world redeemed by Christ-like love; all life in Christ made new.

As we profess our faith in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, and giver of life, let us stand and say together the words of the Nicene Creed...

CHILDREN & YOUTH MINISTRIES

The Rev. Kristopher D. Adams
Minister to Children and Youth

MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW!

- Wednesday, October 15 Parish Supper followed by Children & Youth Programs
including Youth Manhunt
- Saturday, October 25 Youth Chili Cooking
- Sunday, October 26 Annual Youth Chili Fundraiser
- Sunday, November 2 All Saints' Parade with St. Andrew's School Violin Choir

CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS FOLLOWING PARISH SUPPER Wednesday, October 15

On the third Wednesday of each month, St. Mary's hosts a parish supper from 5:30pm-6:45pm. Please join us for our first parish supper of the fall, on Wednesday, October 15, which will include programs for children and youth of all ages. We are encouraging families with children and youth to share their supper together from 5:30pm - 6:00pm. Beginning at 6:00pm, programs will be held for children and youth (kindergarten - grade 12). For our littlest ones (birth - age 5), childcare will be available beginning at 6:00pm in the nursery. All programs for children and youth will conclude by 6:45pm.

Our **Small Saints** program for young children (kindergarten - grade 2) will focus on learning about giving, outreach, and helping others in our community. The Small Saints will meet together in the Block Room. **Junior Youth Group** (grades 3-5) will give older children the opportunity to support the outreach efforts of St. Mary's. Junior Youth group will meet in the Grades 3-5 Sunday School Classroom.



YOUTH EVENT FOLLOWING PARISH SUPPER

Wednesday, October 15

MANHUNT RETURNS

Wednesday can be the most boring night of the week... so break the awful routine and join us for a crazy game of MANHUNT following our first parish supper of the year! Never played before? MANHUNT is a version of group tag that we play outside at night. It's a youth favorite here at St. Mary's, and this October, **MANHUNT RETURNS**.

Come eat with the entire church during parish supper at 5:30pm, since **ALL YOUTH PLAYING MANHUNT EAT FREE**. Then join us from 6:00-6:45pm for the hunt. Don't forget your flashlight, and wear clothes that you can get dirty while running through the woods. Please sign up in advance using the link below so that we can plan accordingly for dinner and the hunt. **Friends and guests are ALWAYS welcome!**

<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0c48acaa29aafe3-manhunt>

YOUTH CHILI COOKING & ANNUAL CHILI FUNDRAISER

Saturday, October 25, 3:00-6:00pm

It's that time of year again for the one of the best combinations the world has ever seen... Chili and football!!! Each year during football season, the youth of St. Mary's host a Chili Sale to benefit their annual missions trip. **This year, we will be making our chili on Saturday, October 25, from 3:00pm to 6:00pm.** While preparing our chili, we will have a few chili-inspired contests in order to crown a chili champion. I suggest you brush up on your culinary skills now and get into a hot sauce training program to see how much heat you can handle!



Come ready to get messy in the kitchen, and please bring \$5 for a pizza dinner. All youth (middle and high school) are welcome and invited, and please feel free to bring friends! **Our chili will be sold the following day, Sunday, October 26, before and after the 11:00am service.** Please click the link below to sign up online and let us know if you'll be cooking with us in the kitchen!

<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0c48acaa29aafe3-youth>

ALL SAINTS' SUNDAY PARADE

Sunday, November 2, 10:45am



St. Mary's annual All Saints Sunday Parade will be on November 2, for children ages 3 through 2nd grade. All children in the Ages 3-4, Ages 5-6, and Grades 1-2 classes will need to be in their classrooms at 10:45am on Sunday, November 2, to put on their saints' costumes that will be provided for them.

Then they will line up with their classes to go into New St. Mary's and proceed down the aisle to a special song. Afterwards, they will return to their classrooms for their regular Sunday school schedule. If your child will not be able to make it to Sunday school on October 26 when some portions of their costumes will be prepared, please note that extra costume pieces will be made so that your child can still participate in the procession while in costume on Sunday, November 2.

CHILDREN'S GIVING PROGRAM

This year, our children's giving program will support Connor's Heroes, a local Richmond nonprofit dedicated to the fight against childhood cancer. Connor's Heroes are made up of volunteers, parents of children with cancer, and other caring individuals and companies who want to conquer childhood cancer through direct assistance, awareness, and research.

By building relationships of trust with patients and their families, Connor's Heroes helps each family identify needs and then responds quickly and appropriately by engaging community volunteers in personal support services. They hope to help others be heroes in the lives of children with cancer and their families. Currently, they provide assistance to children and their families who are being treated for cancer in Richmond, Virginia, at the Children's Hospital of Richmond at VCU, including the ASK Pediatric Hematology/Oncology Clinic and the VCU Massey Cancer Center Bone Marrow Transplant Unit. They also provide Heroes Backpacks to children treated for cancer at Carilion Clinic Children's Hospital in Roanoke. Connor's Heroes also established the Pediatric Cancer Research Endowment Fund in the Department of Pediatrics at the VCU School of Medicine and VCU Massey Cancer Center. The endowment will be used exclusively to support pediatric cancer research with the ultimate goal of recruiting a nationally recognized pediatric cancer researcher.

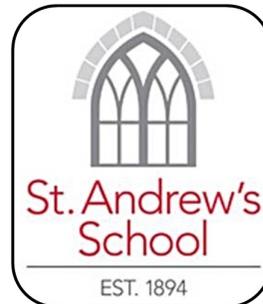
All of this year's children's giving funds will be donated to the Connor's Heroes Foundation in honor of our own Callen Tyson, whom we continue to remember in our thoughts and prayers during his own battle against childhood cancer.



ALL SAINTS SUNDAY PERFORMANCE: ST. ANDREW'S SCHOOL VIOLIN CHOIR

Sunday, November 2, 11:00am

St. Mary's annual All Saints Sunday Parade will have a special addition this year, as our children will process in costume while accompanied by a performance from the St. Andrew's School Violin Choir. St. Andrew's School transforms lives by providing quality, progressive education to children from families with limited financial resources through a full scholarship for every child. Their whole-child approach nurtures intellectual, creative, moral and spiritual growth, preparing students for success in school and in life.



St. Andrew's School is supported in part by the outreach efforts of St. Mary's Episcopal Church. We are so glad that some of their students will be able to share a special performance with us on All Saints' Sunday, and we hope that you will join us for this special day of music and celebration. Also, our plate offering this Sunday will be received in support of St. Andrew's School. Please prayerfully consider how you might give.

Coming Soon... CALLEN TYSON BLOOD DRIVE

Every 2 seconds someone in America needs blood. This year, one of those in need included Callen Tyson, a member of St. Mary's Episcopal Church and student at our school. **We have the chance to show Callen our support for him and those in similar situations by coordinating a blood drive through the American Red Cross in Callen's honor.** In giving your gift of life, you'll be directly responsible for helping to save lives. To those lives, it's not just a pint of blood; it's one more day of hope, and sometimes a day can make all the difference.



If we have enough support and interest in the blood drive, we will post a new sign up with the important details, including a specific date and time slots (right now, we are looking to host the blood drive in January 2015). You will receive several weeks notice - but let us know what general timeframe - Sunday morning, Wednesday during the day, or Wednesday evening - would be best for you so that we can consider it in scheduling the blood drive.

Please consider letting us know if you would be able to participate in our Callen Tyson Blood Drive using the link below.

<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0c48acaa29aafe3-callen>

For more on Callen's story, please watch the following video by the American Red Cross.

<http://youtu.be/uBJ2mavmHEo>

REESESTRONG 5K RACE RAISES AWARENESS AND FUNDING TO COMBAT CANCER

The 6th annual ReeseStrong 5K and Golden Ribbon Kid's Run took place on Saturday, September 13. Families, friends and supporters of Callen Tyson and Savanna Anchell, who are both being treated for leukemia, turned out in large numbers to race and walk to show their solidarity with these courageous children and their families.

Participants from St. Mary's Episcopal School and St. Mary's Church focused their attention on Callen, who is a member of the church and a student at our school. His mother and father, Drs. Katie and Jim Tyson, and siblings Matt, Julie, and Olivia are actively engaged in our community of faith.

The Rev. Kris Adams, our Minister to Children and Youth, together with Mrs. Susan Rawls, Director of St. Mary's School, have collaborated to pray for Callen and his family as well as to rally other forms of outreach, including a Red Cross Drive ([See page 11](#)).



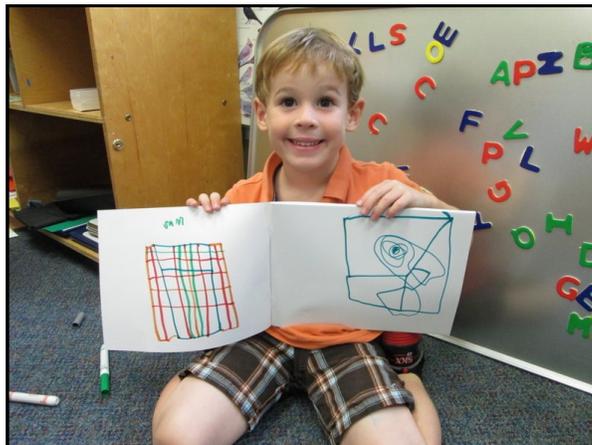
Sprinting toward his goal, Callen Tyson, age 4, participated in the 5K ReeseStrong race to cure childhood cancer on September 13. His father, Dr. Jim Tyson, beams with love and support for his son.



By Susan Rawls, Director

Fall is here and we LOVE it! It is a season in which the children can experience so many beautiful changes in the world: the leaves turn colors, the temperatures become cooler, and the animals scurry around collecting "treasures" to help them through the winter. There is so much for our young "scientists" to see and learn about in God's outdoor world! Inside, our "artists" have been at work painting and drawing, our "engineers" are busy building elaborate structures with small and large blocks, Legos, Mobilos and Tinker Toys, our "writers" are telling some amazing stories through their journals, our "mathematicians" are graphing, measuring, predicting, and problem solving, and our "moms and dads" have been bathing, feeding, and strolling their children to school, the store or the doctor's office. St. Mary's Preschool is a very busy community of learners!

Our school is full this year with 76 children. Our capacity is 80. If you have young children in your family or your neighborhood who might benefit from a program that celebrates the child and provides a developmentally appropriate play based approach to encourage success in school, we hope you will consider St. Mary's. Tours are available each weekday from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. Please contact our office at 784-2049 for more information.





FoMA moments of fellowship, such as this scene of friendship featuring (from left to right) Kristie and Wallace Inge and Jane DuFrane and Doug Pera, enriched our St. Mary's community on September 19. Stay tuned for the next annual Feast of Mary Allen in the fall of 2015!

*St. Mary's Supper Club
is coming back!
SAVE THE DATE!!
Saturday, January 17th, 2015*



*Hosts: Mary and Jim Theobald
More information to follow!*

HAVE YOU MADE YOUR PLEDGE FOR 2015?

2015 Annual Giving Campaign

Cards Sent	553
Cards Returned	129
% of Cards Returned	23%
Pledges to Date	\$371,348

PARISH • NEWS • IN • BRIEF



Rector's Weekly Bible Study

The Bible Study meets every Wednesday in the Library from 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Led by Rector John E. Miller, each Bible study session focuses on the Lectionary readings assigned for the succeeding Sunday. Members are encouraged to bring a Bible in a translation or version that they enjoy reading. All members and friends are cordially invited to attend and participate. While no prior biblical training is required of group members, an open mind and readiness to learn and share insights are always welcome!

Education for Ministry

This small group mentored by Associate Rector Eleanor Wellford and Cabell Jones meets every Tuesday afternoon from 3:30-6:00 p.m. in the Library of the Education Building. The group spends its time in theological reflection and review of specific reading assignments.



Prayer Shawl Ministry

This group of spirited knitters meets in the Associate Rector's office every third Thursday of the month at 10:00 a.m. Its purpose is to knit, weave, or crochet shawls as the ministry's participants pray for God's blessing on those in need of pastoral care. The end product is not only a lovely source of warmth, but it is also a tangible means of comfort. Each shawl represents the loving witness of prayer offered by a community knit together by the Spirit of God.

A SAFE PLACE FOR THOSE WHO HAVE LOST A LOVED ONE

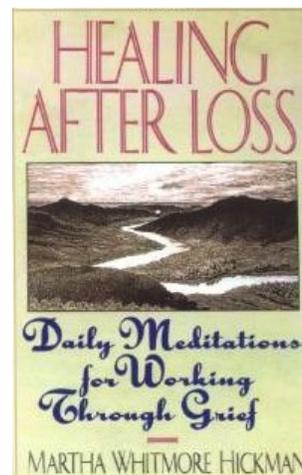
This group is for people who have experienced the death of a loved one. One's loss could be a recent one, or it could be one experienced some time ago as one travels a continuing journey. It provides a time and a place for people to share their journey and to support one another. While each person's journey is unique there are common experiences, feelings and emotions that when shared can bring strength and hope. Just knowing that one is not alone can be of great comfort.

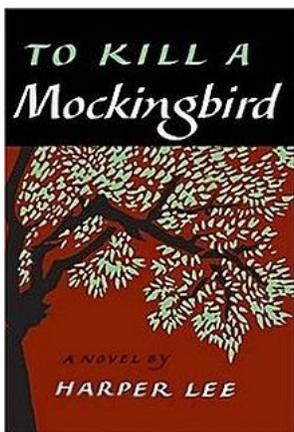
The group is facilitated by our Priest Associate, David Knight and Sydna Street who brings her gentle sensitivity and experience to our time together.

Dates: Fridays, October 3, October 10, and October 17.

Time: 10:00 -11:00 a.m.

Place: Library in the Education Building.





ADULT EDUCATION COMMITTEE TO PRESENT SIX-PART SERIES ON *TO KILL A MOCKINGBIRD*

Beginning on Wednesday, October 1, Richmond lawyer Henry M. Massie, Jr. will lead a six-session discussion series on Harper Lee's classic, *To Kill a Mockingbird*. The class, which is sponsored by the Adult Education Committee, will meet on successive Wednesdays from 7-8:30 p.m. in the 8th Grade Classroom of the Youth and Adult Education Building. The class themes are as follows:

- | | |
|----------------|--|
| Oct. 1 | Introduction of Harper Lee |
| Oct. 8 | View the film of <i>To Kill a Mockingbird</i> |
| Oct. 15 | Christian Aspects of the book |
| Oct. 22 | Legal Aspects of the book |
| Oct. 29 | Walking around in someone else's shoes |
| Nov. 5 | Discussion of various aspects of the book |

Mr. Massie's interest in *To Kill a Mockingbird* began during his law school years when he was introduced to the book in a class on legal ethics. Since that time he has been captivated by Harper Lee's literary contribution in terms of its legal, religious, and ethical import.

LITTLE FREE LIBRARY— HOW THIS LIBRARY WORKS!

This Library belongs to everyone! Your neighbors, friends, people who pass by. Anyone may use it. This Little Free Library offers a way to share good things to read. We suggest you include: Books you would recommend, your childhood favorites, books that teach and intrigue.

Take Books: If you see something you would like to read, take it. Browse through and see who read it or gave it. When finished, you can leave your own special note in it.

Share Books: Pass them on to a friend or return them to any Little Free Library.

Give Books: Continue to be a friend of your Library and others by helping any way you can. Pay it forward. <http://littlefreelibrary.org/>



The St. Mary's NEWSLETTER is published monthly from September through May, with one summer edition, as a ministry to the members and friends of Dover Parish in the Episcopal Diocese of Virginia. The views and information expressed herein are guided by the mission statement of our parish:

We are a community of faith that worships and learns together, welcomes all people, and serves the needs of others in gratefulness for God's love and grace revealed in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Editor-in-Chief
Managing Editor
Staff Photographers
Contributors

The Reverend John Edward Miller, Ph.D., Rector
Mrs. Lori Remington Smiley, Parish Secretary
The Parish Staff
The Lay Leadership and Professional Staff of Dover Parish

The regular deadline for submission of articles for publication is the fifteenth day of each month.

SHAPIRO SPEAKS TO ST. MARY'S SENIORS ON WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 8

“The GOP thinks of him as a modestly amusing ankle-biter,” said Virginia General Assembly Speaker of the House William Howell, “while the Democrats view him as a loyal attack hamster. What he lacks in talent, he makes up in self-esteem with delusions of adequacy.”

Former Governor Gerry Baliles described his brand of journalism as “combining the sleuthing skills of Columbo with the theatrical values of very bad vaudeville.”

Senator Tim Kaine described his writing as colored by “wild conjecture and personal opinion” while his clothes are “louder than a Terry McAuliffe stump speech.”

According to fellow journalist (and former St. Marian) Page Melton Ivie, he is renowned for having “prowled the passages of the powerful, mined the murk of the minions and scoured the sewers of the solons.”

By his own self-effacing admission, he is “the leper with the most fingers.”

On Wednesday, October 8 St. Mary's Seniors will host Richmond Times-Dispatch political columnist Jeff Schapiro for the first regular luncheon of the new season.

Schapiro has covered Virginia elections and the state Capitol for more than 30 years, beginning as wire service reporter. You may view his “Jeffs Notes” video journal on Thursdays at the Times Dispatch website and hear his analysis at 8:33 a.m. Fridays on WCVE (88.9 FM) during “Morning Edition.”

St. Mary's Seniors meet at noon on the second Wednesday of each month, October through May, for a time of fellowship, lunch and discussion, with speakers from a wide spectrum of professions and interests. Previous speakers have included novelists, cabinet secretaries, historians, state delegates, educators, physicians, TV personalities and environmentalists — some from our own congregation.

All seniors —and aspirants to the order of seniority — are welcome. Please call the church office at 804-784-5678 for a reservation which will help us with food preparation. You can also email info@stmarysgoochland.org for reservations.



Menu:

Spaghetti Pie
Mixed Green Salad with dressings
Rolls and Butter
Apple Strudel

October 2014

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 9:00 AM Fellowship Committee 10:00 AM Bible Study 7:00 PM Book Study	2 7:30 PM Adult Choir	3 10:00 AM Safe Place	4
5 9:00 AM Holy Eucharist I 11:00 AM Holy Eucharist II 12:15 PM Adult Education Committee	6	7 3:30 PM E/M	8 10:00 AM Bible Study 12:00 PM Seniors 7:00 PM Book Study	9 9:00 AM Outreach Committee 7:30 PM Adult Choir	10 10:00 AM Safe Place 4:30 PM Wedding Rehearsal	11 4:30 PM Wedding Hensby/Kendig
12 9:00 AM Holy Eucharist I 10:00 AM Parish Breakfast 11:00 AM Morning Prayer I with Children's Sermon	13 Columbus Day Office Closed	14 3:30 PM E/M	15 10:00 AM Bible Study 5:30 PM Parish Supper 6:00 PM Youth Manhunt & Activities 7:00 PM Book Study	16 10:00 AM Prayer Shawl 7:30 PM Adult Choir	17 10:00 AM Safe Place 5:00 PM Wedding Rehearsal	18 4:30 PM Wedding Younger/Stade
19 9:00 AM Holy Eucharist I 11:00 AM Holy Eucharist I & Holy Baptism	20	21 3:30 PM E/M	22 10:00 AM Bible Study 7:00 PM Book Study	23 7:30 PM Adult Choir	24	25 3:00—6:00 PM Youth Chili Cooking
26 9:00 AM Holy Eucharist I 11:00 AM Holy Baptism Youth Chili Sale	27	28 3:30 PM E/M 5:00 PM Vestry	29 10:00 AM Bible Study 7:00 PM Book Study	30 7:30 PM Adult Choir	31	

12291 River Road, Richmond, VA 23238

Phone 784-5678

School Phone: 784-2049

Fax: 784-1940

Email: info@stmarysgoochland.org

PARISH BREAKFAST

Sunday, October 12
10:00 a.m.
New Parish Hall

Menu:

Sausage Patties
Scrambled Eggs
Home Fried Potatoes
Biscuits with Butter and Jam
Mixed Fresh Fruit

*Please call 784.5678 for reservations, or email
info@stmarysgoochland.org*

*Requested Donation: \$7.00 per Adult,
\$4.00 per child age 9 to 14, Family Maximum \$22*

PARISH SUPPER

Wednesday, October 15
5:45 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.
New Parish Hall

Menu:

Homemade Brunswick Stew
Gourmet Grilled Cheese
Green Salad
Crusty French Bread
Brownies

*Please call 784.5678 for reservations, or email
info@stmarysgoochland.org*

*Requested Donation: \$5.00 per person
Family maximum of \$20.00*

*If you would like to help, please contact Karen Stephens
at 514-4769 or kstephens@stmarysgoochland.org.*

ST. MARY'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
12291 River Road • Richmond, Virginia 23238

