** The Annunciation St. Mary’s Episcopal Church**

 **Fourth Sunday after Pentecost June 12, 2016**

Nursery

We have nursery available for infants through 4 year olds during the 10 a.m. service. The nursery is located in the Preschool and Sunday School Building. Our nursery leader, Meg Zehmer, and Melissa Alicea will be happy to help you get your child settled into the nursery.

**Worship bags**

We provide worship bags that contain a coloring page based on the Gospel reading of the day. It also has a wonderful parent-focused message on the back to help you talk about the day’s reading with your child. Worship bags are located in wood bins near the entrances to the church.

**Sermons available**

Find past sermons available in hard copy in the narthex of New St. Mary’s, or visit **stmarysgoochland.org/sermons** to hear audio and download print versions.

**Connect with us**

We would love to learn more about you! If you are a visitor, please pick up a **welcome packet** from one of our ushers.

There are moments now when – shocking – my children misbehave at church…and I look around and realize that they are as comfortable in this space as they are in their own home, and that makes my heart swell.

Kerri White

Co-chair, Children’s Ministries Committee

**A Weekly Reflection**

I remember the first time I came to St. Mary’s. I had been church shopping about a year prior and eventually gave up on the idea of finding our church home. It was complicated. I considered myself a recovering Catholic and needed to find a church that met my theological precepts (I couldn’t give up the idea of a Virgin Mary), but better aligned with my cultural realities.

I finally came to St Mary’s alone on a Sunday one fall. My husband was out of work for the second time in five years, a consequence of the financial meltdown, and I was a working mother of three small children who needed something to assure me that God hadn’t forgotten we were here. I sat in the back of the church, gazing at the sky blue ceiling and feeling awash with peace. There’s something about that color that transforms me still. I sat through the service, crying at times, taking notes, though I can’t say I remember the content, and feeling like I had been seen.

Turns out, I was.

John [the rector at the time] introduced himself to me directly after church and, choked with tears, I managed to say I’d be back. And I was. By myself a couple times, with the children, and eventually as a family. It wasn’t long before I had been asked to serve on the children’s ministries committee. My background as a teacher had made me feel I could contribute, so I said yes and thus – a and I really believe this – forever changed the spiritual development of my children.

See, here’s the thing: whatever I have given, I have gotten back tenfold. Serving on that committee connected me to the church and the people more than I ever imagined possible. Suddenly, those other smiling faces had names. And all those children became friends. And those Sunday meetings became anticipated opportunities to connect with women who shared values and parenting objectives and a few laughs along the way. And as I reflect on this experience, I can say, those women became my friends.

Serving on a committee transformed my relationship with the church and made it a vital component in our lives. I cannot more emphatically underscore that truth. By giving, I have received.

***Would you like to write for us?*** *Contact Emily Rowell Brown at* **ebrown@stmarysgoochland.org** *to learn more.*

*See more at stmarysgoochland.org*

**Today’s Schedule**

**10 a.m.** Morning Prayer Rite One, *New St. Mary’s*

**Welcome!** Whether it is your first Sunday at St. Mary’s, or your 401st, we’re glad that you’re with us. Please feel free to introduce yourself to an usher or a clergy member and consider filling out an information form. We invite you to join us on future **Sundays** at 10 a.m. for Eucharist and Morning Prayer, on Wednesdays for **Noonday** **Prayer** at 12 p.m. in beautiful and quaint Little St. Mary’s, for a **class** or **Bible study**, or for many of our other **fellowship** and **outreach** offerings. **Little St. Mary’s** is also **open** Monday through Thursday between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. and Friday between 8:30 a.m. and 12 p.m. and available to you for prayer and reflection. See the back page to get a sense of what we have going on around St. Mary’s.

**Special Summer Happenings**

**For Children:**

**HUNGRY? Come to the Table VBS 2016 July 11-15** from 9 a.m.-12 p.m. Mark your calendars for a great week of fun and learning for St. Mary’s children ages 3 – 5th grade. We will be exploring **feeding stories** from Scripture and learning more about the **Eucharist**. Interested in volunteering to help with the week? Please contact Amelia McDaniel at ***amcdaniel@stmarysgoochland.org.***

**Take Flat Jesus with you this summer!** Grab a copy of Flat Jesus here at church or download one from our website. Bring Him along with you to the park, the beach, summer camp, wherever you may go this summer. Snap a picture and send it to us. We will be sharing Flat Jesus’s journeys on Facebook throughout the summer. Send pics to ***amcdaniel@stmarysgoochland.org***.

**For Youth:**

**Calling all Acolytes!** Serving as an acolyte is a great way to be a part of the church community, and is open to anyone who has completed the confirmation process. It also looks good on college applications! If you (or your child) would like to **be a part of the St. Mary’s community this summer** **by serving as an acolyte**, please email Matt Rawls at ***mrawls@stmarysgoochland.org***.

**You don’t have to go far to do what matters…** This summer the youth are invited to participate in a **local, home-grown mission trip**. This is open to anyone grades 6-12. We will spend **Thursday, June 23 and Friday, June 24** volunteering at **Shalom Farms** and then at the **soup kitchen** at Grace and Holy Trinity. On Thursday night we will gather back at St. Mary’s for food, games and fellowship! Please email Matt Rawls for more information at ***mrawls@stmarysgoochland.org******.***

* **For those recently confirmed:** Don’t forget to pick up your confirmation certificates, mission voucher and book from Matt Rawls. Included is a $200 voucher from the Diocese which can be used toward a mission trip anytime before you turn 19. This will be useful as we start planning a **not so close to home­ trip for next summer!**

**For Young Adults:**

**Are you home for the summer?** If you have been away at school for the year and have returned, our Associate Rector, Emily Rowell Brown, would love to **grab a cup of coffee** and hear about your year. We still consider you a part of the St. Mary’s family and invite you to think of us as your “*church* home away from home!” Contact Emily at ***ebrown@stmarysgoochland.org*** to learn more.

**For Adults:**

**Cuppa Job.** Join Emily Rowell Brown for a cup of coffee and a pop-up study of Job on **June 15, June 22, and June 29** at **11 a.m.** in the **Old Parish Hall**. We will explore the richness of this beloved but also disturbing text—and why it is included in our canon of scripture. Contact Emily at ***ebrown@stmarysgoochland.org*** to sign up or with questions.

**Fellowship**

**Let’s talk hospitality on June 26**. One of the greatest gifts of a church is the **Christian community** that we create together. Making newcomers and long-timers alike feel welcome and included happens both during and outside of worship. If you would like to be involved in the conversation about **hospitality at St. Mary’s**, and particularly how we might encourage **fellowship after the Sunday services**, please join us for a meeting on **Sunday, June 26** at **9 a.m.** (with coffee and breakfast treats!) and contact Emily Rowell Brown at ***ebrown@stmarysgoochland.org***.

**Lemonade will be back in a few weeks…but there’s still coffee!** We will hold our next Lemonade on the Lawn after the 10 a.m. service on **July 3** and enjoy a time for cool beverages, refreshments, and fellowship with St. Mary’s friends. **A big thank you** to **Jane Fawley** for making the first Lemonade on the Lawn of the summer a great success, with the help of **Kay Lowe, Sarah Richardson,** and **Joan Wilkins**. **If you can bring a baked good to share at the next gathering, please contact Jane at *janefawley@msn.com***. In the meantime, **enjoy good coffee** after the service in the New Parish Hall!

**Stewardship**

**Others depend on us.** Outreach is one of the most valued aspects of parish life at St. Mary’s Church. Did you know that grants to outreach partners come from St. Mary’soperating budget, which depends onthe **financial pledge** that each of us makes to support the ministries of St. Mary’s. If you haven’t already done so, please consider making a financial pledge for 2016. Every gift, large or small, makes a difference—to St. Mary’s and to our neighbhors. You can pledge online at **stmarysgoochland.org/pledge**, email Gina Alexander at ***galexander@stmarysgoochland.org*** or call 784-5678. Thank you.

**Serve**

**Serve as an usher during funerals.** During a time of grief and loss, you can be a **helpful, comforting presence**. We depend on our funeral ushers to **welcome and guide** many people who set foot into St. Mary’s for the first time. If you would like to participate in this ministry, please contactBob Newman or Weezie Blanchard at ***wblanchard@stmarysgoochland.org*.** A **training session** will be held on **Thursday, June 23 at 5 p.m.**

**Where is God Calling St. Mary’s?**

Throughout the spring, hundreds of **St. Mary’s parishioners, staff, and clergy** met with and listened to each other to **prayerfully discern** “Where is God calling St. Mary’s?” On Tuesday, May 31, the **Discernment Process Steering Committee** Chair Tim O’Shea and focus area committee chairs Mary Lou Bean, Marshall Bowden, Owen Conway, Kristie Inge, and Peggy Talman presented a summary of their report to the Vestry. The Vestry received written copies of the report, and will meet again on this Tuesday, June 14 to make recommendations to the parish based on the report. **The parish** will thenreceive a report from the Vestry on next Sunday, June 19, after which copies of the report will be made available to everyone in the parish. There will be a **special Adult Forum** following the 10 a.m. service on **Sunday, June 26** to hear from the Discernment Process Steering Committee and the Vestry and to ask questions.

**St. Mary’s Episcopal School**

**Accepting 2016-2017 applications.** Congratulations to St. Mary's Episcopal School on being voted Best of 2016 Preschools/Childcare in Richmond, Virginia second to Primrose School, a full day multi-site childcare center. St. Mary's School is currently accepting applications for children ages **2-6** for **two day, three day, four day, five day** and **Junior Kindergarten programs**. **St. Mary's members (or their referrals) will receive $250 off tuition.**We offer a **play-based curriculum**, small intimate class sizes, and a fabulous outdoor classroom. Please call us at 784-2049 for more information and to set up your personal tour. Visit us on the web at **www.saintmarysschool.net.**

**This Week at St. Mary’s**

**Clergy, Staff, and Vestry**

**Melissa Alicea,** *Nursery Assistant*

**Gersain Agudelo**, *Assistant Sexton*

**Gina Alexander**, *Parish Administrator*

galexander@stmarysgoochland.org

**Adam Bailey**, *Children’s Choir Director*

**Louise Browner Blanchard***, Interim Rector*

wblanchard@stmarysgoochland.org

**Emily Rowell Brown**, *Associate Rector*

ebrown@stmarysgoochland.org

**Tammy Click,** *Accountant*

**W. Dwight Graham**, *Organist and Choirmaster*

**Robert G. Hetherington**, *Priest Associate*

**Amelia McDaniel**, *Director of Children’s Ministries*

amcdaniel@stmarysgoochland.org

**Paul Pace**, *Sexton*

**Matt Rawls**, *Director of Youth Ministries*

mrawls@stmarysgoochland.org

**Lori Smiley**, *Assistant to the Clergy*

lsmiley@stmarysgoochland.org

**Meg Zehmer***, Nursery Director*

**Susan Rawls***, Director of St. Mary’s Episcopal School*

**Vestry Members:**

**Al Rider**, *Senior Warden*

**Jane duFrane**, *Junior Warden*

**Bill Gooch**, *Treasurer*

**Charmaine Trice**, *Register*

**Scott Barton, Steve Guza, Brantley Holmes, Fay Lohr, Tracey Ragsdale, Betsy Rawles, Bruin Richardson, David Rose,** and **Tom Slater**

**Sunday, June 12, Fourth Sunday after Pentecost**

Morning Prayer Rite One, 10 a.m*., New St. Mary’s*

**Monday, June 13**

Pastoral Care Team 2, 5 p.m., *Old Parish Hall*

**Tuesday, June 14**

Staff Retreat, 9 a.m.-4 p.m., *Richmond Hill*

Vestry Meeting, 5 p.m., *Old Parish Hall***Wednesday, June 15**

Cuppa Job Bible Study, 11 a.m., *Old Parish Hall*

Noonday Prayer, 12 p.m., *Little St. Mary's*

Children’s Choir Rehearsal, 5 p.m., *Choir Suite*

**Friday, June 17**

Parish Office closes at 12 noon on Fridays through August 12

**Saturday, June 19**

A.A., 10 a.m., *Education Building Classroom*

**Sunday, June 12**

Holy Eucharist Rite Two, 10 a.m., *New St. Mary’s*

Children’s Choir singing

**Coming Up**

**Thursday, June 23-Friday, June 24**

Youth Group Homegrown Mission Trip

**Sunday, June 26**

Hospitality Meeting, 9 a.m., *Old Parish Hall*

Morning Prayer Rite One, 10 a.m., *New St. Mary’s*

Adult Forum: Discernment Process Report, 11 a.m., *New Parish Hall*

**Sunday, July 3**

Holy Eucharist Rite Two, 10 a.m., *New St. Mary’s*

Lemonade on the Lawn, *New Parish Hall and Terrace*

**Monday, July 11-Friday, June 15**

Vacation Bible School: Come to the Table!

**Monday, August 22-Thursday, August 25**

Children’s Choir Camp

*See more at stmarysgoochland.org/events*