



THE ANNUNCIATION

Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

ST. MARY'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

July 10, 2016

A Weekly Reflection

Conversations with Kids

Children say the most profound and amazing things! Here is the first in what will be a recurring feature.

This conversation took place many years ago with my brother, David, who is 12 years younger than me.

My aunt and uncle were having a small cocktail party. There were several people there my brother, who was four at the time, had not met. He was dutifully introduced to the adults, shook their hands, and went on about playing.

Later David, tugged on my dress.

David: Hey Amie. I've got a question.

Me: Sure, what?

David: Is God the guy in the red shirt?

Me: Nope. That's not God, just our friend.

You see our dear friend, The Rev. Raymond Lord, was an Episcopal priest. In the mid-south we grew up addressing priests as Father (Insert Last Name). So as David was meeting the guests, he met Father Lord. Father Lord happened to have come to the party wearing a red shirt and seersucker shorts if I remember correctly.

I adore this story for so many reasons. Mostly because of the fact that my little brother spent the better part of an evening thinking that God Himself would join us for a drink in the backyard on a summer night. And he does.

Amelia McDaniel
Director of Children's Ministries

Would you like to write for us—or do you have your own conversation with kids? Contact Emily Rowell Brown at ebrown@stmarysgoochland.org to learn more.

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.

TODAY'S SCHEDULE

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

Do you receive email from us?

Visit stmarysgoochland.org/communications to sign up for weekly updates and news from us.

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.

ELECTION OF OUR PERMANENT RECTOR

From Al Rider, Senior Warden: Canon 12 of the Canons of the Diocese of Virginia states: "The Rector of a Church shall be elected by its Vestry, with the advice of the Bishop and in compliance with General Convention III.9.3(a)." On behalf of the Vestry, I am delighted to report that at the Vestry meeting held this past Tuesday, June 28, the Vestry voted unanimously and enthusiastically to forward to Bishop Shannon Johnston the nomination of Weezie Blanchard as our next Rector of St. Mary's Church. This vote is the first step required under the Canon III.9.3 of the Canons of the General Convention of the Episcopal Church for the election of a Rector. Bishop Shannon has up to 60 days to communicate with the Vestry, following which the Vestry will hold a meeting to "consider" his communication and may then elect our permanent Rector. Based on conversations with Bishop Shannon, the Vestry expects to receive a favorable endorsement of Weezie. Indeed, the Bishop has relayed to us informally that he believes Weezie is an excellent fit for St. Mary's; a comment that parallels the view of the Discernment Steering Committee and Vestry.

FELLOWSHIP

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 **August 7** and enjoy a time for cool beverages, refreshments, and fellowship with St. Mary's friends. **A big thank you** to **Jane Fawley, Kay Lowe, Susie Salsitz, Joan Wilkins**, and our wonderful sexton **Paul Pace** for making last week's Lemonade on the Lawn another great success—despite the rain! **If you can bring a baked good to share at the next gathering, please contact Jane at janehawley@msn.com.** In the meantime, **enjoy good coffee** after the service in the New Parish Hall!

STEWARDSHIP

One of the functions of religion is to help us make the link between our inner reality and outward behavior. Our life's work as Christians is religious integrity. Animated by Christ's love, our words and actions embody grace and truth in ever-more-generous ways. Br. Mark Brown, Society of Saint John the Evangelist, a monastic community of The Episcopal Church and The Anglican Church of Canada

Our 2016 Stewardship Campaign is \$90,000 short of its goal. If you have not yet done so, we respectfully and urgently request that you make your pledge. *You can pledge online at stmarysgoochland.org/pledge, email Gina Alexander at galexander@stmarysgoochland.org or call 784-5678. Thank you!*

SERVE

If you have time during the evenings or weekends to **make phone calls** to help us update our contact lists, we would love your help! Contact Lori Smiley at lsmiley@stmarysgoochland.org or 804.784.5678 to learn more. This is a great opportunity for those who would like to volunteer and need flexible hours.

DID YOU KNOW?

You can sign up for a **name tag**, pick up information about **St. Mary's Episcopal School** and copies of the **Discernment Process Steering Committee report**, **past sermons**, and **Flat Jesus** in the narthex (the entry hall at the back of the church).

SPECIAL SUMMER HAPPENINGS

For Children:



VBS Begins Tomorrow! A fantastic group of adults are preparing to spend the week teaching, guiding and just generally loving up over 60 kids (!) who will participate in VBS. In addition, 20+ of our youth have volunteered to help as well, which is simply outstanding. Please hold the teachers, youth and children in your prayers this week as the Gospel story is shared and the Welcome Table is set.

Flat Jesus' bags are packed and ready to go! TAKE HIM WITH YOU! 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.

For Parents:

Parents Seminar During VBS: During Vacation Bible School, Matt Rawls will host a round table discussion for parents. The discussion will focus on navigating the challenges of kids and phones. It will be specifically geared toward parents of teenagers, but all are welcome! If you are interested, please email Matt at mrawls@stmarysgoochland.org.

For Adults:

Summer at the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts. As long as there has been art, artists have evoked the presence of the holy through their work. Following up on the popular Advent at the Museum and Lent at the Museum offerings, join Interim Rector (and long ago VMFA docent) Weezie Blanchard as we **look for the holy** in the outstanding collections of the VMFA in "Summer at the VMFA." We'll **meet in the lobby** on Thursday, July 21 **at 10 a.m.**, and **an optional lunch at the VMFA restaurant Amuse** will follow our tour. To sign up, please contact Lori Smiley at lsmiley@stmarysgoochland.org or 784-5678.

SPACE UPDATES

A new space for the Nursery. The Nursery has moved **across the hall!** The room has been **freshly painted** and the furniture and toys moved in. We are still waiting for the arrival of some new chairs, window treatments and artwork. Parents – it is **open for business**. Those wanting to take a peek you are always welcome to swing by but give us a few more weeks to gussy her up a bit.

"Dover Lounge." You may have noticed that the **area between the Sunday School and St. Mary's Episcopal School, on one side, and the Café and New Parish Hall, on the other side**, is undergoing a **transformation**. What used to be a mostly empty (and noisy!) space has become an **inviting place** to sit and chat with a colleague or friend, enjoy a cup of coffee, have a meeting, read a book, or simply catch your breath. With the advice of the Dover Parish Community Group (our mostly 20's, 30's, and 40's adults), we're adding **more places to sit** and **more places to feel welcome at St. Mary's** in time for the fall. All costs will be covered by gifts to St. Mary's and do not affect our operating budget. Enjoy!

Making every nook and cranny welcoming. We are blessed with a beautiful, expansive campus, and we want to be sure that we are **using every inch to the fullest potential**. Stay tuned for information about updates to the **Library** and **meeting spaces** in the Parish Office. If you have ideas about how we could arrange these spaces and would like to lend a hand (or an extra set of eyes), please contact Lori Smiley at lsmiley@stmarysgoochland.org.

This Week at St. Mary's

Sunday, July 10, Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

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

Monday, July 11

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

Vacation Bible School Begins, 9 a.m.-12 noon

Tuesday, July 12

Vacation Bible School 9 a.m.-12 noon

Staff Meeting, 2 p.m., *Old Parish Hall*

Wednesday, July 13

Vacation Bible School 9 a.m.-12 noon

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

Thursday, July 14

Outreach Committee, 9 a.m., *Old Parish Hall*

Vacation Bible School 9 a.m.-12 noon

Friday, July 15

Vacation Bible School 9 a.m.-12 noon

Parish Office closes at 12 p.m. on Fridays through August 12

Saturday, July 16

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

Sunday, July 17, Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

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

Coming Soon

Thursday, July 21

Summer at the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts, 10 a.m.,
at the VMFA

Sunday, July 24

Hospitality Meeting, 11 a.m., *New Parish Hall*

Monday, August 22-Thursday, August 25

Children's Choir Camp

See more at stmarysgoochland.org/events

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

INFORMATION, PLEASE

Help us help you. A foundational piece of serving you well is having up to date information about you and your family. Over the summer, we will be **updating our data bases to reflect the most current information** about our St. Mary's community. Please fill out the **enclosed information sheet**, which you can drop off in designated boxes in the narthex (the entry hall on the way into the church), the Café in the New Parish Hall adjoining the church, or the church office in the Old Parish Hall. Or you can email the information to info@stmarysgoochland.org. The information is solely for St. Mary's and will not be shared with any unrelated organization.