

# THE ANNUNCIATION

ST. MARY'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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**The Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost**

**August 27, 2017**

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## 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 a greeter, usher, or a clergy member, and **consider filling out a welcome card.** We invite you to join us on future **Sundays at 10 a.m.** for Eucharist or Morning Prayer, on **Wednesdays for Noonday Prayer at 12 p.m.** in beautiful and quaint Little St. Mary's, or for many of our other fellowship and outreach offerings. **Little St. Mary's** is also **open Monday through Friday** between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. and is available to you for prayer and reflection. Flip the page over to get a sense of what we have going on around St. Mary's.

## Nursery

Our nursery is available for **infants through 4-year-olds** from 9:45 a.m. until 11:15 a.m. The nursery is located in the Preschool and Sunday School Building. Nursery Director Meg Zehmer and Cassie Vestal 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. They also have a wonderful parent-focused message on the back to help you talk about the day's reading with your child. Worship bags are in the front of Little St. Mary's and in the wood bins near the entrances to New St. Mary's.

## Sermons available

Find past sermons available in hard copy in the narthex of New St. Mary's, or visit [stmarysgoochland.org/sermons](http://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 card** from one of our ushers or in the back of a pew.

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*Would you like to write for us? Contact Ashley Cameron at [acameron@stmarysgoochland.org](mailto:acameron@stmarysgoochland.org) to learn more.*

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## TODAY'S SCHEDULE

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

**11 a.m.** Lemonade and Cookies, *New Parish Hall and Terrace*

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*Do you receive email from us?*

Visit [stmarysgoochland.org/communications](http://stmarysgoochland.org/communications) to sign up for weekly updates and news from us.

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## A WEEKLY REFLECTION

"Andrew, there are no mistakes in knitting." When my friend Jennifer said this to me, I shot her a look that was layered with skepticism, annoyance, and frustration. You only needed to look at the mess of yarn in my lap to find evidence that mistakes could abound in knitting.

I'd been trying to learn to knit off and on for about a year, but with very little success. I dreamed of the baby blanket I'd make to welcome my nephew Lucas into the world. I could picture the beautiful prayer shawls and scarves I would craft. Yet all I had to show for my efforts thus far was a gray rectangular-ish blob of a...scarf? Pot holder? Work of abstract art?

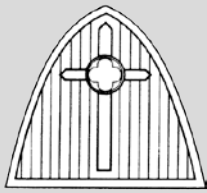
Yet Jennifer stuck to her positively perky refrain. "There are no mistakes in knitting." And, somewhat surprisingly, it's a mantra that I've come to adopt for myself. In many ways, she was right, there are no mistakes in knitting.

Now, to be sure, you can do things incorrectly. I have been known to botch a pattern, lose track of where I am or simply miscount stitches. But unless my error is glaringly obvious, I don't often backtrack and try to fix anything. Because the small errors or inconsistencies are part of the charm and appeal of something handmade. A prayer shawl with a row or two that are off is a reminder that it was lovingly and prayerfully crafted. Often the imperfections make it more beautiful.

In Psalm 139 the psalmist writes "For it was you who formed my inward parts; you knit me together in my mother's womb. I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made." God created each of us in all of our unique, broken, and beautiful ways. We were lovingly knit together without mistakes, in all of our imperfect perfection.

In time, I did learn to knit, and it is now one of my favorite pastimes and one of my most meaningful prayer practices. And every time I find myself inclined to get frustrated by an imperfection, I can hear Jennifer's voice reminding me "Andrew, there are NO mistakes in knitting." She was right, there are no mistakes in my knitting. And there are no mistakes in the way that God knitted together creation.

*Andrew Moore*



## ST. MARY'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

12291 River Road, Richmond, VA 23238

(804) 784-5678

[www.stmarysgoochland.org](http://www.stmarysgoochland.org)

| Growing in Faith |  
| Building Community |  
| Giving Joyfully |

### CLERGY, STAFF, AND VESTRY

**Gersain Agudelo**, *Assistant Sexton*

**Elizabeth Baker**, *Administrative Assistant*

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

**Louise Browner Blanchard**, *Rector*

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**Ashley Cameron**, *Director of Communications and Parish Life*

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**Clarence Dixon**, *Assistant Sexton*

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

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

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**Deedi Trabosh**, *Accountant*

**Cassie Vestal**, *Nursery Assistant*

**Meg Zehmer**, *Nursery Director*

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

### Vestry Members:

**Al Rider**, *Senior Warden*

**Tracey Ragsdale**, *Junior Warden*

**Joe Cheely**, *Treasurer*

**Charmaine Trice**, *Register*

**Karen Huennekens**, **Fay Lohr**, **Kim O'Shea**,

**Doug Pera**, **Betsy Rawles**, **Bruin Richardson**,

**David Rose**, **Tom Slater**, and **Russell Wyatt**

### FALL KICKOFF IS AROUND THE CORNER!

Join us on **Sunday, September 10** as we kickoff our fall programs with an **Open House and Parish Picnic**. In **between the 9 and 11 a.m. services**, find out about the many opportunities to participate in the vibrant life of St. Mary's at our **Open House in the New Parish Hall**. Then after the 11 a.m. service, we'll **celebrate the new year with a Parish Picnic!** Joey's Hot Dog food truck and King of Pops will be here. It's a **fun, family-friendly, and FREE event!**

### BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS & CAR KEYS

Join us next **Sunday, September 3 for the final 10 a.m. summer service** of the year. Students and teachers are invited to **bring their back-to-school bags** and new teenage drivers are invited to **bring their car keys** for a special blessing during the service.

### STORIES FROM AFRICA

"To say that our trip was whirlwind is an understatement. We **visited three dioceses in Tanzania and one in the Democratic Republic of Congo**. We were in three cities and at least a dozen villages. We saw three cathedrals, 13 churches, and six schools. We took eight different plane rides and countless car rides. And we were warmly welcomed wherever we went," explained Weezie Blanchard during her Sunday, July 2 sermon. **There are so many stories and reflections to be heard about Weezie and Buck's trip to Africa** this past June. Join them for some **wine, cheese, and spectacular storytelling on Wednesday, September 6 at 5:30 p.m.** in the New Parish Hall. Who knows where the Spirit may call St. Mary's in the wake of this mission?

### This Week at St. Mary's

**Monday, August 28**

Pastoral Care Team 4, 9 a.m., *Rector's Study*

**Tuesday, August 29**

Staff Meeting, 2 p.m., *Rector's Study*

**Wednesday, August 30**

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

**Saturday, September 2**

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

**Sunday, September 3, Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost**

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

Cookies and Lemonade, 11 a.m., *New Parish Hall and Terrace*

**Monday, September 4, Labor Day**

*Church Office Closed*

**Wednesday, September 6**

Acolyte Training, 5:30 p.m., *New St. Mary's*

Stories from Africa with Weezie and Buck, 5:30 p.m., *New Parish Hall*