

# THE ANNUNCIATION

ST. MARY'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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**The Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost**

**September 3, 2017**

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## 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 Cake, *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

Next Sunday, September 10, is Kickoff Sunday. We emerge from the lazy days of summer and move into the more patterned ways of fall. Next Sunday we will have two services at 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. and the 10 o'clock hour will focus on Christian education and spiritual formation. If you give us two hours on Sunday morning, we can strengthen and deepen your faith. Your Christian faith can become a greater asset as you face the challenges and opportunities of your lives.

The theme for the program year is "Telling Our Story." How does the Biblical story of Jesus impact our lives? Can we tell our faith stories to each other and in the process form a stronger faith community here at St. Mary's? How does the history of St. Mary's form a strong foundation for building up the church in 2017? Who and where are we meant to serve others?

With the addition of Ryan Tibbetts, our new Director of Music, the St. Mary's staff team is complete. We are ready to serve you. As this new chapter in the life of St. Mary's begins, what does God have in store for each of us personally and for the St. Mary's community?

As the fall kicks off, it is important to share our summer stories. On Wednesday, September 6, beginning at 5:30 p.m. in the New Parish Hall, Weezie and Buck Blanchard will have a chance to share their adventures in Africa. It is important to remember that the mission of the church is global. Brothers and sisters from across the world have much to teach us about being Christian in the face of hardship and challenge. These relationships also shrink the world. Together we want to be the best possible stewards we can be of the planet. We are in this enterprise together. What happens to the world has personal implications for each of us.

The gospel for this Sunday contains these words: "He who saves his life will lose it and he who loses his life for my sake will save it." The deep meaning is in leaning into life and serving the needs of others.

Who knows where God's spirit will take us this fall. As we participate in the various ministries of St. Mary's Church, I believe God's spirit will teach us a lot. Exciting days lie ahead.

*Bob Hetherington*

**WELCOME!** Whether it is your first Sunday at St. Mary's, or your 401<sup>st</sup>, 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 9 a.m. for Eucharist or at 11 a.m. for Eucharist or 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** and **New St. Mary's** are also **open** Monday through Friday between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 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.

### ST. MARY'S WELCOMES RYAN TIBBITTS

The Rev. Weezie Blanchard is pleased to **announce that Ryan Tibbetts will join the staff of St. Mary's as Director of Music beginning September 5.** Ryan has lived in Richmond since 2015 when his wife, Kate, accepted a faculty position in chemistry at Virginia Commonwealth University. He served most recently as interim organist and choirmaster at St. Thomas' Episcopal Church, and **he directs the Central Virginia Masterworks Chorale and the Richmond Concert Chorale.** The search committee was very impressed by both Ryan's musical talents and his enthusiasm as we seek to expand our already excellent music program. Ryan studied at Princeton University and the University of Delaware, and holds a Doctor of Music in choral conducting from the Indiana University Jacobs School of Music. **We look forward to introducing Ryan to the parish this fall.**

### FALL KICKOFF AND PARISH PICNIC

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.** 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!**

### 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. 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 this 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?

### SPIRITUAL FORMATION AND ADULT EDUCATION

Back by popular demand, the **men's spiritual practice group** will meet weekly for a **six-week session beginning on Tuesday, September 12 at 7:30 a.m.** in the Old Parish Hall. Led by Bob Hetherington, the gathering is an opportunity to deepen faith and is open to men of all ages.

The weekly **Lectionary Bible Study** led by parishioner and University of Richmond Professor Frank Eakin begins again this fall on **Wednesday, September 13 at 10 a.m. in the Library.** Each Bible study session focuses on the Lectionary readings assigned for the succeeding Sunday. **Anyone who is interested is invited** to attend and participate in this vibrant discussion.

## CHILDREN AND YOUTH

**Sunday School starts next Sunday, September 10!** Sunday School classes are offered for children ages 4 - 5th grade at 10 a.m. throughout the school year. The curriculum is lectionary based, meaning that each week the **kids learn about the Gospel story** (or a significant Old Testament story) that they will hear in worship. This gives them a chance to prepare for worship and offers families a chance for deeper conversation following worship and throughout the coming week. **If you are interested in learning more about or registering for Sunday School**, contact our Director of Children's Ministries, Amelia McDaniel at [amcdaniel@stmarysgoochland.org](mailto:amcdaniel@stmarysgoochland.org) for more information.

**Any student in 8th grade (or above) is invited to join us in the St. Mary's confirmation process**, which runs throughout the 2017-2018 school year. Spread out over 24 classes on the first, second, and third **Sunday mornings of each month at 10 a.m.**, we will learn about the history of our faith, as well as the history of the Episcopal Church and of St. Mary's, and we will learn what it means to have the opportunity to say "Yes! Amen!" to the gift of Baptism. **For more information, please email Matt Rawls** at [mrawls@stmarysgoochland.org](mailto:mrawls@stmarysgoochland.org).

**Acolyte Training!** This Wednesday, **September 6 at 5:30 p.m.** and Sunday, **September 17 at 12:15 p.m.** in New St. Mary's, Matt Rawls will train acolytes to minister as crucifers, Gospel bearers, and communion assistants and helpers. **All students in grades 6-12** who are interested in participating in our liturgy are invited and encouraged to attend. **Please email Matt Rawls** at [mrawls@stmarysgoochland.org](mailto:mrawls@stmarysgoochland.org) if you plan to attend.

## PARISH LIFE

**Do you love to needlepoint or would you like to learn how?** Are you in search of a quick and purposeful project? The Stitching Saints group needs you! Stitchers of all abilities (even brand new stitchers) are invited to our first meeting on **Wednesday, September 13 at 10 a.m. in the Dover Lounge**. We will start on a new and simple needlepoint project for the sanctuary. Already working on a project and just want to come and sit and stitch with friends? You are welcome to join in. For more information please contact Nancy Ritter at [nancym.ritter@gmail.com](mailto:nancym.ritter@gmail.com) or Anne McCoy at [ritterah@gmail.com](mailto:ritterah@gmail.com).

## OUTREACH

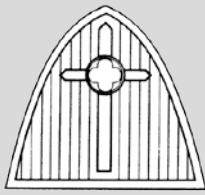
St. Mary's parishioners are invited to participate in **St. Peter's Bible study and volunteer at their food distribution**. This **Wednesday, September 6 at 8:30 a.m.**, meet at St. Peter's ready to **read that week's Gospel, reflect with community members, unload the truck from the food bank, and prepare grocery bags**. Please come for an hour or two, whichever works best with your schedule. Please contact Ashley Cameron at (804) 784-5678 or [acameron@stmarysgoochland.org](mailto:acameron@stmarysgoochland.org) for more information.

## BEYOND BRIDGES

**From October 1-November 12**, St. Mary's will host "Beyond Bridges," a **traveling exhibition featuring 21 works of premier Christian, Muslim, and Jewish contemporary artists**. The exhibition is organized by CARAVAN, a peacebuilding arts nonprofit led by the Reverend Canon Paul-Gordon Chandler. **Hear Paul-Gordon preach on Sunday, October 1** at the 9 and 11 a.m. services and join him during adult forum for a discussion of his new book, *In Search of a Prophet: A Spiritual Journey with Kahlil Gibran*.

## THANK YOU!

Many thanks to the **Director of Music Search Committee (Fran Jones, Carol Price, Nancy Reed, Bruin Richardson, Meriwether Roberts, Beth Stephens, Tad Thompson, Philip Tickle, Frank Trice, and the Rev. Andrew Moore)** for the time and talent that went into the search process for St. Mary's new Director of Music. The search committee worked hard to envision how the Director of Music might have an expanded role in the life of St. Mary's. We received nearly 40 applications from around the country, and we were privileged to interview some truly outstanding candidates. We thank you for your faithful service in filling this key position!



**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*  
ebaker@stmarysgoochland.org  
**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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**Andrew Y. Moore**, *Associate Rector*  
amoore@stmarysgoochland.org  
**Paul Pace**, *Sexton*  
**Matt Rawls**, *Director of Youth Ministries*  
mrawls@stmarysgoochland.org  
**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**

**This Week at St. Mary's**

**Monday, September 4, Labor Day**

*Church Office Closed*

**Tuesday, September 5**

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

**Wednesday, September 6**

St. Peter's Bible Study and Food Distribution, 8:30 a.m., *St. Peter's Episcopal Church*

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

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

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

**Thursday, September 7**

Outreach Committee, 8 a.m., *Old Parish Hall*

Stewardship Committee, 4 p.m., *Old Parish Hall*

Sunday School Teacher Training, 6:30 p.m., *Dover Lounge*

**Saturday, September 9**

Sunday School Teacher Training, 9:30 a.m., *Dover Lounge*

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

**Sunday, September 10, Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost**

Holy Eucharist Rite One, 9 a.m., *Little St. Mary's*

Sunday School and Confirmation Class, 10 a.m., *Sunday School Classrooms and Education Building*

Fall Kickoff Open House, 10 a.m., *New Parish Hall*

Morning Prayer Rite One, 11 a.m., *New St. Mary's*

Parish Picnic, 12 p.m., *Terrace and Churchyard*

**Coming Up**

**Monday, September 11**

Pastoral Care Team 2, 5 p.m., *Rector's Study*

**Tuesday, September 12**

Men's Spiritual Practice, 7:30 a.m., *Old Parish Hall*

**Wednesday, September 13**

Stitching Saints, 10 a.m., *Dover Lounge*

Lectionary Bible Study, 10 a.m., *Library*

Divine Dance Book Study with Andrew, 6:30 p.m., *Library*

**Thursday, September 14**

Prayer Shawl Ministry, 9:15 a.m., *Dover Lounge*

Divine Dance Book Study with Weezie, 10 a.m., *Library*

**CONNECT WITH US!**

- ❖ **New to St. Mary's?** First time or returning visitor? Please help us get to know you by filling out a **welcome card** found in the back of every pew.
- ❖ **Need a nametag?** Please **sign up for one** in the back of the church or make a temporary one. If you already have one, **please remember to wear it** to help make St. Mary's a warm, welcoming place.
- ❖ **Are you following us on Instagram?** We love sharing fun facts, behind the scenes, and our beautiful campus. Make sure to **follow us @stmarysgoochland**
- ❖ **Do you like our Facebook page?** You can find recent sermons, reflections, pictures from events, and more by liking us at [facebook.com/St.MarysGoochland](https://facebook.com/St.MarysGoochland)