

THE ANNUNCIATION

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Welcome!

We joyfully welcomed the newly baptized—William Hughes Pope—into the Household of God, the Body of Christ, last Sunday!



“With Scripture... we’ve been invited into a wrestling match. We’ve been invited to a dynamic, centuries-long conversation with

God and God’s people that has been unfolding since creation, one story at a time. If we’re lucky, it will leave us with a limp.” - Rachel Held Evans, *Inspired*

Rachel Held Evans, an accomplished writer, friend, wife, and mother, would have celebrated her 40th birthday this week. She died in the spring of 2019 after an allergic reaction to medication that triggered massive swelling in her brain. But instead of celebrating a birthday, her friends and family released a beautiful children’s book she began before her death. It is a book that helps explain what God is like

to young ears. But it is for us all.

Evans previous writing was not for children, but for adults. She had an incredible gift for opening up Scripture as a place to begin a life with God, again and again, never as a stopping point. She had faith in the wideness of God’s mercy and a fierce belief in setting bigger tables for God’s people rather than the assumption that somehow, we – people – are in charge of the guest list. Her scholarship and courage in wrestling with Scripture and how Scripture is used in our world will be referenced for a lifetime. My books of hers are dog-eared and marked up.

For some background, Evans grew up in the Evangelical Protestant church and became an Episcopalian as an adult. In a blog post where she addresses the controversy this shift

Welcome to St. Mary’s Episcopal Church - we are so glad that you are here! Since the 1870s, God has gathered a beloved community of Jesus to worship and serve here, where all are welcomed. We are committed to providing a holy place for worship, Christian Formation for all ages that is compelling and life-giving, opportunities to reach out in love for those in need, and an enthusiastic hope that all who call St. Mary’s their spiritual home can participate in every area of our common life in Christ. The spirit of St. Mary’s is grounded in a deep sense of gratitude for God’s goodness and love. We give thanks for you and for your life, and we are grateful to God for the opportunity to welcome you!

Weekly reflection continues...

TODAY’S SCHEDULE

10 a.m. Worship Service with Holy Eucharist, New St. Mary’s

caused for some, she writes, "I just happen to worship with a community of Jesus-followers at an Episcopal church, where I've reconnected with the power of communion and the sacraments, and where I've been loved mightily for just showing up, even with my doubts in tow."

I didn't grow up reading the Bible the way Evans did. I grew up learning more about God through the sacraments and liturgy less than two hours away from where Evans lived in Tennessee. Her perspective on and love for the sacred text that is the foundation of those sacraments and liturgy connected me in a new way to Scripture. I am so grateful for her work.

Next week, a group of us will begin reading *Inspired*, written by Evans in 2018. In it, Evans explores the different writing styles contained in the Scriptures – stories that tell us about origins, deliverance, wisdom, salvation. She carefully and reverently gives those who don't think they know how to read the Bible a doorway into the stories which shape us. If you can't join the group, I hope you might consider reading the book over the summer.

"If you are curious, you will never leave the text without learning something new. If you are persistent, you just might leave inspired." - Rachel Held Evans, *Inspired*

Amelia McDaniel



SAVE *the* DATE

Isabel's 100th
Birthday!

FRIDAY, AUGUST 27, 2021
ST. MARY'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

details to come



COLLECTING CLEANING SUPPLIES FOR GATEWAY HOMES

Drop donations in the cart in the Narthex on Sundays or by the Parish Office during the week.

St. Mary's Outreach Ministry is collecting cleaning supplies for our Outreach Partner, Gateway Homes. Gateway Homes helps individuals with serious mental illness recover, maintain psychiatric stability, return to work or school, and move into independent living housing in the community. These cleaning supplies would greatly benefit Gateway's clients who live in the Support Living Center on their Chesterfield Campus.

Supplies needed include: toilet cleaner, bathroom cleaner, sponges, paper towels, bucket, mop, broom, dustpan, plunger, and more. Drop items in the cart outside the Parish Office during the week or in the Narthex on Sunday mornings.

We are collecting throughout the entire month. And we had a great start collecting items at the Family Picnic last Sunday!

STORY TIME ON THE PLAYGROUND THIS SUMMER

Wednesdays, June 23 and 30, and July 7 and 14, 9-10 a.m., Playground

Join Amelia on the playground for a story, a quick project and a snack on Wednesdays, June 23 and 30, and July 7 and 14 from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. Our first book will be *Shy Willow* by Cat Min.

WOMEN'S BOOK STUDY ON "INSPIRED"

Tuesdays, June 22 and 29, and July 7, 13, and 20, at 1:45 p.m., Library and Zoom

The Women's Book Study Group is starting back up again for five weeks this summer. And it's not too late to join this group! Amelia McDaniel will lead the study on "Inspired: Slaying Giants, Walking on Water, and Loving the Bible Again" by Rachel Held Evans. As the description reads, "The Bible, she [Rachel] discovers, is not a static work but is a living, breathing, captivating, and confounding book that is able to equip us to join God's loving and redemptive work in the world." You can join the group either in person in the Library or Virtually on Tuesdays beginning June 22 at 1 p.m. To sign up or for more information, contact Amelia McDaniel at amcdaniel@stmarysgoochland.org.

"A WRINKLE IN TIME" BOOK STUDY

Recommended for 3rd, 4th, and 5th Graders, Wednesdays, June 23 and 30, and July 7 and 14 at 3:30 p.m.

St. Mary's 3rd-5th Graders are invited to join Amelia for a book study on "A Wrinkle in Time." They will gather for four Wednesdays from 3:30 p.m. to 4:45 p.m. beginning June 23 to talk about this classic children's book by Madeleine L'Engle. This book is filled with ways to talk about love, family, joy, and sorrow. At the end of the book study, the group will pick a time to watch the latest movie version together. To sign up or for more information, contact Amelia McDaniel at amcdaniel@stmarysgoochland.org.

NURSERY IS OPEN THIS MORNING

Nursery for infants to 3-years-old is available again from 9:45 a.m. to 11:15 a.m.! Nursery Director Meg Zehmer will be back. All staff will be fully vaccinated and wearing masks.

TEXT-TO-GIVE AVAILABLE

Text 73256 to "StMarysGoochland"

God has been good to us, and nowhere is that more evident than through the joyous and generous giving of our whole parish family for the mission and ministry of St. Mary's. Some would like the convenience of giving to the church by text. Simply type "73256" as the contact number and type in the message, "StMarysGoochland". You will then receive a text with a link to St. Mary's giving page through our Realm Database.

Do you receive email from us?

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

The Annunciation | June 20, 2021 | Fourth Sunday after Pentecost





This Week at St. Mary's

Sunday, June 20

Worship Service with Holy Eucharist, 10 a.m.,
New St. Mary's

Tuesday, June 22

Men's Spiritual Practice, 8 a.m., *via ZOOM*
Staff Meeting, 10 a.m., *Parish Offices*
Inspired Book Study, 1:45 p.m., *Library*

Wednesday, June 23

Story Time, 9 a.m., *Playground*
Lectionary Bible Study, 10 a.m., *via ZOOM*
Noonday Prayer, 12 p.m., *Little St. Mary's*
A Wrinkle in Time Book Study, 3:30 p.m., *TBD*

Thursday, June 24

Women's Spiritual Practice, 8 a.m., *via ZOOM*

Friday, June 25

Church Office Closes at noon.

Sunday, June 27

Worship Service with Holy Eucharist, 10 a.m.,
New St. Mary's

A PART OF OUR STORY...



A great family picnic last Sunday with an appearance from Mister Softee! Save the date for the next family picnic - July 18!



Contact Us

Need to Reach Someone? Please call the Church Office at (804) 784-5678. Or visit www.stmarysgoochland.org/staff to find contact information.

Want to Learn More? Please visit St. Mary's website for the most up to date information: www.stmarysgoochland.org



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CLERGY AND STAFF

Ashley Cameron, *Director of Communications and Parish Life*
Carl Hayslett, *Executive Director, Church Operations*
David H. May, *Rector*
Amelia McDaniel, *Lay Associate for Christian Formation*
The Rev. John E. Miller, Ph.D., *Rector Emeritus*
Paul Pace, *Sexton*

Elizabeth Starling, *Administrator*
Ryan Tibbetts, *Director of Music*
Eleanor Wellford, *Priest Associate*
Tyrell Wilkins, *Assistant Sexton*
Susan Rawls, *Director of St. Mary's Episcopal School*

VESTRY

Harry Baldwin, *Senior Warden*; Missy Roberts, *Junior Warden*; Joe Cheely, *Treasurer*; Fran Jones, *Register*; Jill Aveson, Ashley Barlow, Sam Bruce, Owen Conway, Wayne Dementi, Christy Gurkin, Robin Lind, Jesse McCoy, Ann Ramsey, and Danny Williams.



ST. MARY'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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