

THE ANNUNCIATION

visit www.stmarysgoochland.org



Sunday school in the Block Room with Sam



Welcome!

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 provide 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!



At an Adult Forum in the fall of 2018, I led a discussion about conflict transformation.

I don't remember all the details, but I know that I made connections with the core Christian practice of reconciliation and the work of Christ's love to carry that out. The late Allen Ferguson raised his hand and asked, "How am I supposed to love everybody? Honestly, it's not even possible." I remember I didn't respond to his question very effectively, because, well, how do you love everybody?

Allison Dunaway's beautiful reflection last week finally gave

me at least one possible answer to Allen's question: you love everybody one person at a time, that's how. What she describes in her reflection are the effects of the ongoing conflict in our nation (and in our families) brought about by years of political polarization. It's the kind of thing that can make you lose heart or choose to become cynical.

But loss of heart or cynicism aren't the only alternatives. Allison described a different response: the One Step at a Time initiative of StoryCorps. This is a program that pairs people with different worldviews and experiences to have a facilitated conversation about their own lives. Richmond is one of four cities in the

Weekly reflection continues...

TODAY'S SCHEDULE

9 a.m. Holy Eucharist in Little St. Mary's

9:30 a.m. Parish Breakfast in the Parish Hall

10 a.m. Sunday School in the Block Room

11 a.m. Holy Eucharist in New St. Mary's

12 p.m. Cookies and coffee in the Parish Hall

12:30 p.m. High School Lunch in the Education Building

5 p.m. Youth Group in the Education Building

nation where this program is being piloted, and St. Mary's Church is serving as one of the sites for those conversations to happen.

These conversations aren't opportunities to convince someone that they are wrong, and you are right. Who needs more of that?! No, these are opportunities to meet another human being with whom, underneath it all, you probably share common hopes and fears, and joys and sorrows; and someone who has a story to tell just like you do, too. I find that whenever that happens, the Spirit of God has some room in me to work.

I registered Wednesday afternoon to be paired with someone. It took about 10 minutes. The next morning, I woke up wondering about the person with whom I'll be paired. That person is out there somewhere right now living their life. Our lives will intersect for a 45-minute conversation in late April. But without thinking, I found myself praying for that person, hoping it would be a good day for them, that there would be graces for them. And then I realized, with a start, that the Spirit was, is, already at work.

I don't want to lose heart and I don't want to become cynical. I want to be a part of God's great work in Christ Jesus to heal and reconcile this sinful and broken world. And I can do that one person at a time.

David May

ONE SMALL STEP NOW REGISTERING

St. Mary's and StoryCorps invite you to participate in a 40-minute facilitated conversation with a stranger who holds different political views. The purpose of the One Small Step conversation is not to debate politics, but to share experiences, learn more about who we are as people and recognize our common humanity. It is an opportunity to live out Jesus's call to love our neighbors and begin to heal our nation's divisions. St. Mary's is proud to be one of the first faith communities in Richmond to host a One Small Step event, which will be open to parishioners and the surrounding community.

**ONE
SMALL
STEP**
Richmond

Please take five minutes to complete your registration by scanning the QR code below. Your registration must be completed by Sunday, March 24. StoryCorps staff will match you with a conversation partner and will contact you to schedule your conversation during a convenient time on April 25, 26, or 27. The conversations are recorded, and if both participants agree, the material will be archived at the Library of

Congress. Contact Allison Dunaway at allison.dunaway@gmail.com with questions.



Ministry Highlight

One way our children's ministry celebrates Easter Sunday is with an egg hunt on our beautiful campus after the 11 a.m. service. We need your help to make this happen!

Today we will stuff the eggs in the parish hall during parish breakfast. Please lend a hand. Thank you!



Outreach Highlight

Today's the day! March 10 is our monthly second-Sunday clothes-closet sorting at GoochlandCares. Meet at 12:30 p.m. at the rear door of the building. This is a wonderful opportunity to make a hands-on connection with one of our outreach partners for a couple hours on a Sunday afternoon. Let Dick Thomas know you're coming at nvvserv@icloud.com or 804-432-4158.

NEXT SUNDAY: EVENING WORSHIP & POTLUCK

Join us Sunday, March 17, at 5 p.m. for a Stations of the Cross service led by our youth, followed by a St. Patrick's Day-themed potluck featuring baked potatoes. (It's earlier this month due to Holy Week.)

Sign up here to bring a side to share.



PARISH BREAKFAST TODAY

9:30 a.m. in the Parish Hall

Buffet service starts at 9:30 and continues through the education hour today in the parish hall. Come enjoy fruit with yogurt, Bill's cinnamon rolls, baked oatmeal with berries and bananas, and scrambled eggs with link sausage. Yum!

SUPPER SERIES: WHAT DOES GOD MEAN BY JUSTICE?

Wednesday, March 13, 5:30 p.m. in the Parish Hall

Old Testament scholar Dr. Melissa Jackson wraps up our Lenten supper series this Wednesday. Catch the conclusion of *What does God mean by justice?* We meet in the parish hall at 5:30 p.m. for supper together followed by Melissa's program. Dinner this week will be tomato soup with grilled-cheese croutons and Caesar salad. The evening concludes by 7 p.m. with Compline, and there is children's programming.

PURCHASE WATER FILTERS FOR KENYA

In conjunction with the St. Mary's children who are collecting money in their mite boxes for water filters to support Hope to Others, we wanted to give everyone the opportunity to help the community of Motoseit outside of Kitale, Kenya. When Education=Hope students and their families have clean water via home filters, they can attend school without their education being interrupted by water-borne illnesses such as dysentery, cholera, and typhoid.

One water filter costs \$50 and will last at least three years. Use this QR code or mail a check to the church office to ensure a family has clean water in their home, a luxury we are able to take for granted. Money collected from our Lenten supper and speaker series is also designated for this good work. Thank you!



COMING SOON: LUNCH & LEARN

Thursday, March 21, 12 p.m. in the Parish Hall

Do you have a child or grandchild in college? Are you interested in hearing about religious life on campuses these days? Join us at our next Lunch & Learn on Thursday, March 21, in the parish hall.

David May will interview the Rev. Dr. Craig Kocher, university chaplain and Jessie Ball duPont Chair of the Chaplaincy at the University of Richmond. They will discuss the current climate of religious life on campus, the challenges young people face in today's world, and the spiritual support systems in place to help navigate these challenges.

On the UR staff since 2009, Dr. Kocher also teaches in the Jepson School of Leadership Studies. He previously held similar positions at Duke University and Davidson College.



SUNDAYS AT ST. MARY'S

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

9 a.m. Holy Eucharist in Little St. Mary's
10 a.m. Sunday School & Adult Forum
11 a.m. Holy Eucharist or Morning Prayer in New St. Mary's*

*We have first, third, and fifth Sunday Holy Eucharist at both services. Second and fourth Sundays will have Morning Prayer, except during Advent, Lent, and Easter.

NURSERY

Nursery is offered for infants to four-year-olds every Sunday from 8:45 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. As a part of nursery time, the toddlers will hear a Bible story, sing, and play games.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sunday School is offered for four-year-olds to 5th graders at 10 a.m. Each week the children learn the stories of the Bible through singing and storytelling. Sunday School for 6th-12th graders meets in the youth lounge at 10 a.m.

ADULT FORUM

Adult Forum gathers on Sundays in the Parish Hall during the 10 o'clock hour. All adults are welcome!

CHILDREN'S CHAPEL

During the 11 a.m. service, children (age four to 5th grade) are invited to come forward during the Gospel hymn and go to the Block Room together. There, they hear the Gospel story, talk about it, and sing together. They return to the service during the passing of the peace.

OCCURRING WEEKLY

MEN'S SPIRITUAL PRACTICE

Tuesdays at 8 a.m. via Zoom

LECTIONARY BIBLE STUDY

Wednesdays at 10 a.m. in the Library and via Zoom

HOLY EUCHARIST WITH PRAYERS FOR HEALING

Wednesdays at 12 p.m. in Little St. Mary's

CENTERING PRAYER

Thursdays at 11 a.m. in the Narthex

NEW BEGINNINGS

Saturdays at 10 a.m. in the Education Building (open A.A. meeting)

*Events are subject to change. Please visit www.stmarysgoochland.org for updates.

Do you receive email from us?

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

The Fourth Sunday in Lent | March 10, 2024 | The Annunciation





This Week at St. Mary's

Sunday, March 10

Holy Eucharist, 9 a.m., *Little St. Mary's*
 Parish Breakfast, 9:30 a.m., *Parish Hall*
 Sunday School, 10 a.m., *Block Room*
 Holy Eucharist, 11 a.m., *New St. Mary's*
 Cookies and coffee, 12 p.m., *Parish Hall*
 High School Lunch, 12:30 p.m., *Education Building*
 Youth Group, 5 p.m., *Education Building*

Tuesday, March 12

Men's Spiritual Practice, 8 a.m., *via Zoom*
 Staff meeting, 10 a.m., *Church Office*
 Book Group, 1:30 p.m., *Education Building*

Wednesday, March 13

Lectionary Bible Study, 10 a.m., *Library*
 Holy Eucharist with Prayers for Healing, 12 p.m., *Little St. Mary's*
 Lenten Supper and Speaker Series, 5:30 p.m., *Parish Hall*

Thursday, March 14

Centering Prayer, 11 a.m., *Narthex*
 Pastoral Care Team #2, 5 p.m., *Library*
 Sacred Ground, 5:30 p.m., *Education Building*
 Choir rehearsal, 7:30 p.m., *Choir Suite*

Friday, March 15

Book Group, 10:30 a.m., *Library*

Saturday, March 16

New Beginnings AA, 8:30 a.m., *Education Building*

Sunday, March 17

Holy Eucharist, 9 a.m., *Little St. Mary's*
 Adult Forum, 10 a.m., *Parish Hall*
 Sunday School, 10 a.m., *Block Room*
 Holy Eucharist, 11 a.m., *New St. Mary's*
 Cookies and coffee, 12 p.m., *Parish Hall*
 Worship with Stations of the Cross & Potluck Supper, 5 p.m., *New St. Mary's and Parish Hall*



Contact Us

New Here? Be sure to fill out a welcome card located in the pews and in the narthex. Place it in the offering plate or bring it to an usher or clergy to learn more about the life and ministry of St. Mary's.

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

A PART OF OUR STORY...



NEW TO ST. MARY'S?



We're so glad you're here!
 Scan the code or visit stmarysgoochland.org/welcome
 to let us know you're here and help us stay in touch!



facebook.com/St.MarysGoochland



[@StMarysGoochland](https://www.instagram.com/StMarysGoochland)



Online Offering
 Scan QR code to
 make an online offering.

CLERGY AND STAFF

Lauren Clay, *Office Administrator*
 David H. May, *Rector*
 Amelia McDaniel, *Lay Associate for Christian Formation*
 The Rev. John E. Miller, Ph.D., *Rector Emeritus*
 Paul Pace, *Sexton*

Kilpy Singer, *Associate Rector*
 Elizabeth Starling, *Executive Director, Church Operations*
 Ryan Tibbetts, *Director of Music*
 Maggi Tinsley, *Director of Communications*
 Jacob Warren, *Director of Youth Ministries*
 Tyrell Wilkins, *Assistant Sexton*

VESTRY

Jeff Allende, *Senior Warden*; Barbara Tavenner, *Junior Warden*; Joe Cheely, *Treasurer*; Bill Gooch, *Register*;
 Ros Bowers, *Henly Deutsch*, Andy Howlett, Linda Hyslop, Mary-Taliaferro Keeney, Sandy McDonald,
 Meriwether Roberts, Geoff Simril, Celeste Stallings, and Frank Trice.



ST. MARY'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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