September 20, 2024

### Sunday September 22, 2024

SEPTEMBER SCHEDULE for Holy Eucharist and Morning Prayer

Rev. Deacon Becki Casey

September 22 - Morning Prayer

September 29 - Holy Eucharist with The Rev. Dr. Pete Gustin

# THIS WEEK IN WORSHIP



Readings for September 22, 2024

Proverbs 31:10-31 Psalm 1 James 3:13-4:3, 7-8a Mark 9:30-37

## Lay Servers - September 22, 2024

Vestry Person	Jaynie Jackson
Usher	Kay John
Acolyte	Molly Sanford
Lector	Briarley Rogers
Intercessor	Karen Czar
LEM	Morning Prayer
Altar Guild	Jaynie Jackson
Fellowship	•
-	•

## **WEEKLY at PIEDMONT CHURCH**

<u>Tuesday</u> 7:30 a.m. Men's Bible Study in the Sun room

<u>Wednesday</u> 6:30 p.m. Bible Study with Norris John 6:30 p.m. Choir Practice - Brad Jackson

<u>Friday</u> 9:00 a.m. Morning Prayer with Bill Birkhofer

## Food, Fellowship, and Song

It's time to prepare your appetites and singing voice once again. Beginning in September, Wednesday evening potlucks, choir, and Bible study will start back up. We are always looking for new friends to join, so don't be shy. We look forward to seeing you all there!

#### Pub Theology Presents:

"Heaven Can Wait...Or Can It?" An exploration of C.S. Lewis's "The Weight of Glory" and other notions of Heaven

> Thursdays, October 3 and 10 at 7:00 p.m. Los Robles Restaurant, Main Street, Stanardsville

"Aim at Heaven and you will get earth 'thrown in'; aim at earth and you will get neither." --CSL

Feel free to bring a friend, come early for dinner and have a beer. A copy of the sermon is at<u>The Weight of Glory (doxaweb.com</u>)

## **Prayer List**

We offer prayers for those who are dealing with health issues and other ongoing needs: Malcolm (Mac) Barber, Bernadette Blanding, Caitlin Bomar, Kathryn Caswell, David Cronk, Janice Edwards, Joanie Edwards, Vera Griffin, Brad and Lydia Hansen, Ginger Hawkins, Zoe Hubbard, Shelby Jean Hull, Kim, June Shannon Koepke, Marilyn Myers, Hardie Newton, Carolyn O'Brien, Chris Palumbo, Robert, Richard, Pat Roberts, Julinda Roth, Ann Skidmore, Bill Skidmore, Sarah, Joe and Carolyn Stanley, Kathryn Thomas and Robert Ulrich \*If you wish to add or remove someone from the Parish Prayer list please send an email to Rev. Deacon Becki Casey @ beckisafeinhishands@gmail.com by Wednesday to ensure that it gets into the bulletin and weekly messenger

#### Cycle of Prayer

Please join us in praying for our larger Church communities. This week in the Anglican Cycle of Prayer, we lift up The Church of North India (United). For our Earth home, we lift up the Season of Creation. In our Diocesan Cycle of Prayer, we lift up Kingston Parish in Matthews, Little Fork in Rixeyville, San Gabriel in Leesburg, and St. Martin de Porres in Alexandria.

#### Our Whole Community

Most of our members attend church often enough to have met Becki. However, for some, the ability to travel to the church building can be difficult. We also may have friends who haven't attended in a while but still wish to be affiliated with our parish. Additionally, there are some among us who would just like to get to know Becki or have her prayer support. As she is becoming familiar with our parish, she recognizes her limitations in knowing who or how best to reach out. If you or someone you know would like to have a visit from the vicar or have communion brought to them, please let Becki know.

"MINISTER'S MUSINGS"

#### Embertide

Ember Days are upon us once again. Most modern congregations no longer celebrate the Ember Day cycle, and if you have never discerned a call into ordained ministry then it's possible you have never heard of Ember Days.

Ember days are the days the church has historically set aside to pray for those in the process of discernment for Holy Orders. Traditionally they were also times when ordinands would spend time in prayer and retreat. The word *Ember* derives from the Latin *Quattuor tempora*, meaning four, because this cycle happens four times each year, coinciding with the seasons.

It is ultimately the bishop's responsibility to determine those called and prepared to be ordained. Bishops are also tasked with the pastoral care of the

ordained under their charge. Since most bishops have far more priests, deacons, aspirants, and ordinands under their authority than they have time to spend engaging with on a regular basis, Ember Days are also an opportunity to prioritize the relationship between them and their bishop. Those in discernment write letters quarterly, during Ember Days, as a way to help the bishops learn about the development of their potential priests and deacons.

For those early in the discernment process, Ember Days can feel scary. It's humbling and nerve-racking to find oneself laid bare before someone with the authority to direct the course of their future. It is also an amazing experience of learning to trust the beckoning of God, which is something every Christian is always learning in unique ways.

This congregation has a robust history of walking through the process of discernment. Not only has Piedmont just walked through the discernment of calling a new vicar, but you are also walking through discernment to the deaconate with Bill Birkhofer. Additionally, the robust lay ministry alive within this congregation proves the rich discernment of individual congregants.

It is my prayer that none of us ever believe our work of discernment is finished but strive always to hear and follow the leading of God for ourselves, one another, and for our church. Please join me in praying the collects from The Book of Common Prayer for Ember Days.

#### -Rev. Becki

#### I. For those to be ordained

Almighty God, the giver of all good gifts, who of thy divine providence hast appointed various orders in thy Church: Give thy grace, we humbly beseech thee, to all who are [now] called to any office and ministry for thy people; and so fill them with the truth of thy doctrine and clothe them with holiness of life, that they may faithfully serve before thee, to the glory of thy great Name and for the benefit of thy holy Church; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. *Amen*.

#### II. For the choice of fit persons for the ministry

O God, who didst lead thy holy apostles to ordain ministers in every place: Grant that thy Church, under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, may choose suitable persons for the ministry of Word and Sacrament, and may uphold them in their work for the extension of thy kingdom; through him who is the Shepherd and Bishop of our souls, Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the same Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen*.

#### III. For all Christians in their vocation

Almighty and everlasting God, by whose Spirit the whole body of your faithful people is governed and sanctified: Receive our supplications and prayers, which we offer before you for all members of your holy Church, that in their vocation and ministry they may truly and devoutly serve you; through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. *Amen.* 



# SEASON OF

To Love and Heal Creation An Environmental Ministry Conference of the Creation Care Committee Diocese of Virginia Saturday, September 28 th 10 AM to 4:30 PM at The Virginia Diocesan Center at Roslyn 8727 River Road, Henrico, VA 23229

Wherever God calls you, there are things we know how to do now that are effective and make a difference in saving our planet for future generations. The conference begins and ends at Tucker Hall. Lunch is provided up the hill in the Dining Hall. After lunch the break-out sessions are back to Tucker. Two Tucker workshops are indoor/outdoor, weather permitting, and those participants should wear sensible shoes and bring your favored bug repellent! Parishes are encouraged to send 3 participants, to be able to cover the three break-outs offered. But do not stay away just because there's only one of you! Everyone's participation is valued. Everyone's effort is important. Carpooling is strongly encouraged, because parking at Roslyn is tight and we want to be mindful always to minimize our carbon output. Registration Required.

09:30 - 10:00 am Check in and coffee

10:00 - 10:15 am Welcome: Kristine Montamat, Chair of the Creation Care Committee

10:15 - 11:00 am Keynote: Rev. Dr. Faith Harris, Executive Director of VA Interfaith Power & amp; Light

11:00 - 11:15 am Coffee break

11:15 - 11:45 am Introduction to the Committee's ministry and invitation to join in our work

11:45 - 12:15 pm Overview: Love God, Love God's World (produced by The Episcopal Church)

12:15 - 01:30 pm Lunch (at the Dining Hall, up the hill from Tucker Hall) 1:30 - 4:00 pm Breakout sessions:

I. Stormwater Management Project at Richmond Hill with the National Fish & amp; Wildlife Foundation (https://www.richmondhillva.org/), by Beth Nelson (Tucker Hall)

II. Restoring Nature's Balance with Native Plants, by Stacey Moulds & amp; Bill Shanabruch of Local Ecotype Richmond Natives (https://www.lern-rva.org/) (Tucker Hall, indoor/outdoor)

III. The Creation/Spirituality Connection, by Elaine Sevy and Paul Amrhein of theCreation Care Committee (Tucker Hall, indoor/outdoor)

4:00 - 4:30 pm Closing: Door Prizes & amp; Garden blessing, Rev. Dr. Hillary Borbon Smith, (Tucker Hall and garden)

Please contact The Rev. Kathryn Thomas, Deacon for registration information



Parish House Deck Project

Most of you know that the parish house's deck, which has served us so well for many years, has finally given up the ghost. To ensure the safety of our congregants, it must be restored. The project has been budgeted to cost about \$20,000. The vestry has been able to utilize some surplus funds from our time without a priest and move some funds from the budget towards this project. While that is depleting what has been held in reserve, those reserves are intended for such a time as this. Consequently, we are currently within roughly \$5000 of our goal. Being so close to our goal has provided the ability to start the process of securing contractors. However, we still need help getting the final amount secured. The vestry would like to thank everyone who has already generously contributed to this project in both financial assistance and in prayer! Let's keep pressing towards the completion of our final goal!

Thank you to all who have selected Sundays and donated flowers for the altar. There are still a few dates available for anyone who would like to place flowers on the altar. Flowers will be used for two weeks; the cost is \$60. Please add your name to the list on the church bulletin board or advise Vickie Parker, altar guild chair. Dates available are Sept 22 & 29 - Oct 27 & Nov 3 - Nov 10 & Nov 17





## Bishop's VISIT

The Rt. Rev.d Edwin (Ted) Gulick will be visiting Piedmont Episcopal Church on November 24th. That may seem like as if it is in the distant future, but if you wish to be Baptized, Confirmed, Received, or Reaffirmed during this visitation, please let me know. I would love to help prepare those who are interested in furthering a commitment to Christ in these ways! - Rev. Becki

## Sunday School

As school begins once more, we are excited to announce that our Good Shepherd Sunday School will be starting on the 8th of September! Sunday school is for children 4 years and older. Carolyn Stanley will be leading this and would love to have some volunteer help. If you are interested in partnering with her for this ministry, please let Becki or Carolyn know.



**Graves Picnic Joint Service** 

On October 6th we will be having a joint worship service including Grace, Piedmont and the Graves Chapel community. It has been a full year and we are so excited to celebrate God's Faithfulness together! Grave's Chapel is located at 104 Bluff Mountain Rd in Madison, which is roughly a half an hour from both Piedmont and Grace. The service will begin at 11AM. It will be a Morning Prayer service accompanied by a group of guitarists, musicians on the piano, organ, and a joint church choir. Afterwards, there will be a potluck lunch. The Piedmont Church is providing the chicken, and Grace is supplying the paper goods and beverages. All parishioners are invited to contribute sides and desserts. We hope to have lovely weather and enjoy the picnic outdoors, so please bring blankets or chairs for our fellowship time during the potluck.

> Little Fork Church Festival Sept 21, 2024





## Bereavement Support Group No one should have to grieve alone.

Piedmont Episcopal Church together with Gentiva Hospice is offering a bereavement support group that will provide spiritual and faith-based gatherings designed to accompany each person in their unique walk with grief. Bereavement is not only the loss of one's beloved, but can be the loss of your way or direction as well. Madeleine L'engle in talking about her own experience says, "Bereavement is not the truncation of...love, but one of its regular phases."

Join us as we learn to walk this new and difficult path together.

Piedmont Episcopal Church, 214 Church Street Madison, Virginia First Tuesday of each month at 6 pm

October 1, 2024

Place: Piedmont Fellowship House, next door to the church, living room, enter through the kitchen door in the carport

## Grace Episcopal Church, 97 Main St. Stanardsville, VA 22973 Third Tuesday of each month at 6 pm

October 15, 2024

For more information, please contact: Sharon Hicks, LPN, sharonsarbonne@aol.com Pastor Stephen Mathis, sjwmathis89@gmail.com Rev. Kathryn Thomas, kathrynhthomas@gmail.com

#### Contacting the Vicar

The Rev. Becki is spending as much time as she can out of the office, visiting people, and getting to know the community. Her scheduled days to be in Madison are weekly on Wednesdays and Fridays, but she is often available on Saturdays as well. Since she is not always in the office, the best way to get in touch with her is by arranging a visit ahead of time. But she keeps her cell phone with her, and you can always text or call if you have a need. The church office phone number is (540)948-6787. Becki's cell number is (970)324-0561.

The church's email is <u>piedmontepiscopal@gmail.com</u>. Becki's email is <u>beckisafeinhishands@gmail.com</u>.



Piedmont Episcopal Church | 214 Church Street | Madison, VA 22727 US

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