

October 4, 2024

Sunday October 6, 2024

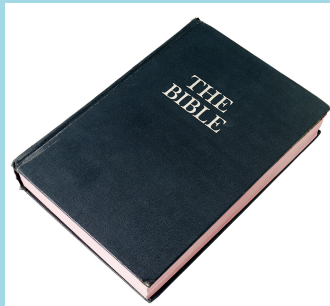
October SCHEDULE for Holy Eucharist and Morning Prayer

Rev. Deacon Becki Casey

**OCTOBER 6, 2024
Graves Chapel
104 Bluff Mountain Road
Madison - 11 am**

**October 13 - Holy Eucharist
October 20 - Morning Prayer
October 27 - Holy Eucharist**

THIS WEEK IN WORSHIP



Readings for October 6, 2024

Isaiah 35:1-10
Psalm 122
Ephesians 4:1-6
John 17: 6a,15-23

Lay Servers - October 6, 2024

Vestry Person.....Jaynie Jackson
Usher.....David Bagby
Acolyte.....From Grace Church

Lector.....Susan Bagby
Intercessor.....Kathryn Thomas
LEM.....-----
Altar Care.....Dona Hutchinson
Fellowship.....Graves Chapel Potluck

WEEKLY at PIEDMONT CHURCH

Tuesday

7:30 a.m. Men's Bible Study in the Sun room

Wednesday

4 p.m. Bible Study with Norris John (Note NEW Time)

5:30 p.m. Potluck Dinner

6:30 p.m. Choir Practice - Brad Jackson

Friday

9:00 a.m. Morning Prayer with Bill Birkhofer

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 [The Weight of Glory \(doxaweb.com\)](http://doxaweb.com)

Prayer List

We offer prayers for those who are dealing with health issues and other ongoing needs: Malcolm (**Mac**) Barber, **Bernadette** Blanding, **Caitlin** Bomar, **David** Cronk, **Janice** Edwards, **Joanie** Edwards, **Vera** Griffin, **Brad and Lydia** Hansen, **Ginger** Hawkins, **Zoe** Hubbard, **Shelby Jean** Hull, **Kim**, **Marilyn** Myers, **Carolyn** O’Brien, **Chris** Palumbo, **Robert**,

Pat Roberts, Ann Skidmore, Sarah, Joe Stanley, 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 Anglican Church of Papua New Guinea. For our Earth home, we lift up the Season of Creation. In our Diocesan Cycle of Prayer, we lift up St. Thomas Episcopal Church in Orange.

Praying Together on Election Day

Our national presidential election in one month away. As the time draws near, our country risks the harm caused by increased fear and division. But the love of Jesus and the protection of God is nonpartisan. The greatest tool to remind us of God's presence, to push back our worries, and to join our hearts together regardless of our political differences, is prayer. On November 5th, the church sanctuary will be open from 3-7pm. The Rev. Becki will be available to lead prayers or host others in silence. Please come pray with us! If you would like to host a portion of this prayer time, please let Becki know.

"MINISTER'S MUSINGS"

What is "Stewardship"?

The topic of money at church always makes people squirm. Utilization of our finances, our time, and talents are some of the most private and sensitive areas of our lives. So why do we talk about them in our worshiping spaces where we should be focusing on God, feeling safe from scrutiny, and free from the mundane concerns of daily life? The answer is twofold. Church is a place where the spiritual and practical meet, so together we strive to feel safe enough to address both.

Spiritually, Christ invites us into the work of building the Kingdom. According to the Catechism, "The duty of all Christians is to follow Christ; to come together week by week for corporate worship; and to work, pray, and give for the spread of the kingdom of God." As a worshiping community, we desire to walk

alongside one another into this type of life. In God's kingdom, praying together isn't any different than stewarding resources together. Every part of our life is a spiritual.

Practically, maintaining a worshipping community, its buildings and resources, requires budgeting. For those new to The Episcopal Church, this practical reality is addressed through a yearly "stewardship campaign" where parishioners "pledge" to support the work of the church through regular contributions. "Pledge Sunday" is the day we all bring our intentions for the year, in the form of a pledge card, bless them, and praise God for the upcoming year's provisions. The vestry then calculates those provisions into the projected budget and makes decisions based on those calculations.

This time of weighing our individual resources and considering our participation in God's kingdom work for the upcoming year is sacred. As humans we are limited creatures, continually working to discern the best way to steward the resources available to us. As Christians, we trust God will both lead and provide for our own needs and those of our church. But it is not simple or easy. I am praying for each of us to have the clarity and faith to trust God to lead us all through this season and into our mission in 2025. I am grateful for your bravery and partnership!

-Rev. Becki



SEASON OF CREATION

Creation Care

This week on October 4th, the Feast Day of St. Francis, the Season of Creation technically ends, but Creation is a blessing and gift from God to all of us, and for the WHOLE year, not just a season. SO what does that mean for us people of The Way, as members of the Body of Christ, as those whom the world sees as Christians? The word human comes from *humus* and that, of course, means ground. In Genesis, every day God creates, and everyday, God says, "It is good.", and on the day that God created us out of the dirt of the Earth, in God's image, as a creator, not an abuser, God said, "It is VERY good; NOT because we alone were very good, but together we, the snakes, the spiders, the bats, and , my favorite, the tardigrades and all unicellular organisms, are Very Good!

The resources are varied and many; as always our God is a God of abundance, but we do not have to go farther than our Scriptures or, as Episcopalians, than our Book of Common Prayer. In Eucharistic Prayer C on p.370, the celebrant prays on our behalf , " At your command all things came to be: the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses, and this fragile earth, our island home....But we turned against you, and betrayed your trust; and we turned against each other"

It seems to me an acknowledgement in those statements that we are breaking the greatest commandment:

Mark 12:30-31 says, "And you must love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, all your mind, and all your strength. The second is equally important: Love your neighbor as yourself. No other commandment is greater than these."

I am a scientist and a deacon, and I am reminded that while science is important, it does not offer much hope; but like Dr. Katherine Hayhoe in Rooted and Rising, Voices of Courage in a Time of Climate Crisis, I look for my hope," not to my Science, but to my faith."

We are called as people of faith to care, watch over, and protect the least of these, those who by negligence or malice, the very least of these, our neighbors in our communities of buildings, rivers, air, and soil.

BUT time is short. There are many sites more numerous than space and attention. Simply go to <https://episcopalvirginia.org/ministries/creation/>, the link for Creation Care in our diocese, and save May 10, 2025 for the next seminar with the Rev. Dr. Faith Harris to learn how you can join us

And pray:

Creator God, bless and multiply these efforts so your will is done on earth as it is in heaven.

In His service, Deacon Kathryn

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 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

Thanksgiving Service

We Gather Together to Ask the Lord's Blessing

Mark your calendars! Piedmont Episcopal Church will be hosting an interreligious Thanksgiving worship service on behalf of the Madison County

Ministerial Association on Wednesday the 27th at 5pm. Please consider joining us as we follow the example of Jesus who crossed religious and social boundaries to heal our divisions.



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.



Blessing of the Animals

In honor of Saint Francis of Assisi, the patron saint of animals, it is customary for pets to be blessed on his annual feast day. This year Rev. Becki will be praying for the individual blessing of animals and their owners at the Greene County Farmer's Market (at Greene Commons, 40 Celt Road, Stanardsville) on Saturday morning from 10 am-noon. Come out and celebrate your furry friends with us!



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.

**Grace Episcopal Church, 97 Main St.
Stanardsville, VA 22973**

Third Tuesday of each month at 6 pm

October 15, 2024

**Piedmont Episcopal Church, 214 Church Street
Madison, Virginia**

First Tuesday of each month at 6 pm

November 5, 2024

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

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 piedmontepiscopal@gmail.com. Becki's email is beckisafeinhishands@gmail.com.



Email us

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