

September 6, 2024

## Sunday September 8, 2024

SEPTEMBER SCHEDULE for Holy Eucharist and Morning Prayer

Rev. Deacon Becki Casey

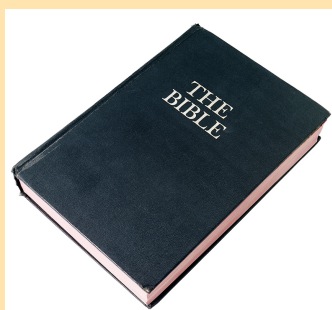
September 8 - Morning Prayer

September 15 - Holy Eucharist

September 22 - Morning Prayer

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

## THIS WEEK IN WORSHIP



Readings for September 8, 2024

**Proverbs 22:1-2, 8-9, 22-23**

**Psalm 125**

**James 2:1-10, [11-13], 14-17**

**Mark 7:24-37**

### Lay Servers - September 8, 2024

Vestry Person.....Beppy White  
Usher.....Beppy White  
Acolyte.....Molly Sanford  
Lector.....Joe Parker  
Intercessor.....Dona Hutchinson

LEM.....Morning Prayer  
Altar Guild.....Jaynie Jackson  
Fellowship.....Sue Brown and Kay John

## WEEKLY at PIEDMONT CHURCH

### Tuesday

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

### Wednesday

**6:30 p.m. Bible Study with Norris John**

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

### Friday

**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!

**September VESTRY Meeting - Sunday September 15, 2024**

**Thank YOU AUDIT TEAM**

**Thank you, Bill Birkhofer and Bess Landolt, for doing the hard work of the 2023 audit. We appreciate the time and effort you dedicated to this task! Your talents and willingness to serve are a blessing to us all.**

## 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, **Zoe** Hubbard, **Shelby Jean** Hull, **Kim**, **June** Shannon Koepke, **Marilyn** Myers, **Hardie** Newton, **Carol** and **Bob** Nowak, **Carolyn** O'Brien, **Chris** Palumbo, **Robert**, **Richard**, **Pat** Roberts, **Pat** Riddle, **Julinda** Roth, **Ann** Skidmore, **Bill** Skidmore, **Sarah**, **Joe** and **Carolyn** Stanley, Kathryn Thomas and **Robert** Ulrich

### 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 the Province of Myanmar (Burma). In our Diocesan Cycle of Prayer we lift up Meade Memorial in Alexandria and Wicomico Parish in Wicomico.

**\*If you wish to add or remove someone from the Parish Prayer list please send an email to Kathryn Thomas [kathrynthomas@gmail.com](mailto:kathrynthomas@gmail.com) by Wednesday to ensure that it gets into the bulletin and weekly messenger**

### "Minister's Musings"

#### Making a Joyful Noise Kassiani (865)

It is singing season once again! As fall approaches and choirs begin practicing, for Episcopal congregations who love the gift of song, it feels appropriate to honor the September seventh commemoration of Kassiani. She was a ninth century abbess and hymnographer. Coming from a wealthy family, being known for her impressive beauty and intellect, Kassiani could have enjoyed the luxury and privilege of an appropriate marriage. Instead, she chose a monastic life, founding an abbey near her home in Constantinople. She prolifically wrote both hymns and poetry and many of her compositions endure. Coming from the Byzantine world, The Orthodox Church continues to use her hymns in liturgy today.

Kassiani lived in the Byzantine Empire during the second iconoclastic period of the mid-800s. Kassiani believed in God's ability to speak through beauty and verbally battled against the iconoclasts who thought the veneration of icons was idolatry. She used poetry as one of the few tools available to women as a means of naming the injustices she saw. Her poetic works are the oldest compositions remaining from a female voice and they continue to inspire worshipers today.

As we consider our own experiences of encountering God, whether or not we are musical ourselves, Kassiani's legacy invites us to share our joy with others. Everywhere we find beauty is an entrance point into worship. Our expression of worship encourages others to join! Together, our hearts make a beautiful chorus to God.

Collect: O God of boundless mercy, whose handmaiden Kassiani brought forth poetry and song: Inspire in your church a new song, that following her most excellent example, we may boldly proclaim the truth of your Word; even Jesus Christ, our Savior and Deliverer. *Amen.*

-Rev. Becki

## The Deacon's Return

This week we are giving thanks to God for the healing of our beloved Deacon Kathryn. While her recovery remains ongoing, she has been cleared to start a slow reentry into her vocational work within the church. She will be working limited hours to begin, but we are so grateful to have her rejoin us in ministry once more. To start, you can expect to have Kathryn join us in worship from the pews where she will alternate Sundays between Grace and Piedmont. Please continue to pray for her healing journey and for the discernment required in determining when and how to proceed into her vocational identity through this period of transition.

## Creation Care

We are just beginning the Season of Creation. From September 1 to October 4th, the Feast Day of St. Francis, is designated the Season of Creation, both internationally and interdenominationally. It is, according to our national church, "a time for renewing, repairing and restoring our relationship to God, one another, and all of creation." The theme this year is *To hope and act with Creation*.

But for me, my relationship with Creation is so very much more personal. It is watching a skunk for the first time on a screened in porch on the base of Ft. Belvoir as I sat in a wheelchair at 4 years of age. It is the towering sanctuary of an evergreen tree offering me a cathedral as my home became anything but shelter. It's the isolating lack of green places to just be able to look out on as a bed held me this last summer, leaving a void in a place that could have healed. And for us as the people of God, followers of Christ Jesus it is, I think, an opportunity to grow more closely to our Creator, creation, and each other, to care and act as extreme weather conditions affect the least of us, to care and act about ecojustice and food inadequacy. It is our Community Garden, Feeding Greene, our worship together, and so many other ways that we reach out to all those in whatever need this confusing world leaves them.

Let us join together this Season of Creation to enrich our lives with the God-given experiences just outside our door, to go deeper into a lifestyle of simplicity, and pray together the Prayer of Saint Francis found in our Book of Common Prayer:

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace,  
where there is hatred, let me sow love;  
where there is injury, pardon;  
where there is doubt, faith;  
where there is despair, hope;  
where there is darkness, light; and  
where there is sadness, joy.

O, God, grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled as to console;  
to be understood as to understand;  
to be loved as to love;  
for it is in giving that we receive;  
it is in pardoning that we are pardoned;  
and it is in dying

that we are born to eternal life. Amen.

In His service,  
Deacon Kathryn



## SEASON OF CREATION

### Capital Campaign 2024

This year we are raising funds to repair the parish house deck. This area has become unsafe to use and is in need of repair. Work has begun on this project! We have already received donations for this work. THANK YOU! We hope to meet our goal and have this work completed by the end of the year!

**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**



Altar  
Flowers  
Ministry Opportunity



### Bishop's VISIT

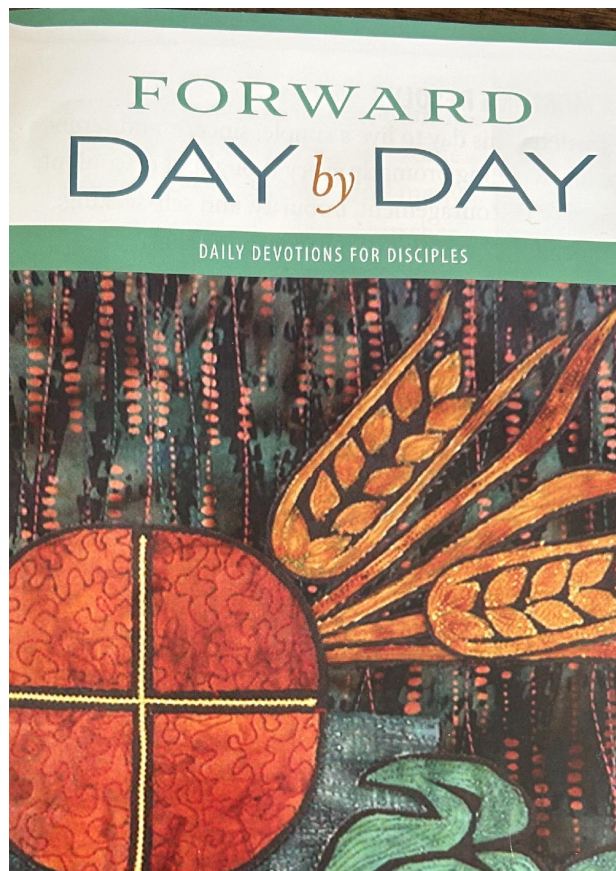
The Rt. Rev.d Edwin (Ted) Gulick will be visiting Piedmont Episcopal Church on November 24th. That may seem like as if it is in the distant future, but if you wish to be Baptized, Confirmed, Received, or Reaffirmed during this visitation, please let me know. I would love to help prepare those who are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

### 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.



October 6<sup>th</sup> is our annual collaborative worship service and church picnic at Grave's Chapel with Grace Episcopal Church! We are so excited to share this time together. Please be thinking about how you want to participate. We plan to have a combined choir for our morning's anthem. We will also need people from both parishes to make decisions and implement all aspects of the day. If you have any interest in taking part in the committee responsible for the decisions regarding the day's festivities, please let Becki know. Soon we will be looking for volunteers to help implement those plans. Can you feel the excitement growing? It is going to be a tremendously joyful day for all of us!



### Forward Day By Day

Daily devotions are one of the most significant practices available to us for strength and encouragement along our spiritual journey. For years our church has provided a booklet called Forward Day by Day as a simple devotional for people to follow at home throughout the week. As technology has progressed, the creators of this resource decided to make the content of the booklet freely available to everyone online and as an app on phones. As the cost of the printed booklet has increased, we have decided to allow individuals to choose how best to access this resource for themselves.

For some, a printed resource will always feel more accessible. If that sounds

like you, the company provides two different sizes. There is the small booklet, roughly 3"x5" in size which includes eight copies over two years for \$25. There is a large print edition that is 8"x11" and includes four copies over a single year for \$25.

For others, a digital resource is simpler. The website provides free options in multiple forms. There is a daily email, a daily podcast, an app, and an online edition.

For everyone, please click [here](#) to access the website and choose the option that suits you best. There are links to all the digital formats as well as subscription information for those who would like to purchase a copy.

## A Joyful Brightening!

Take a look at our beautifully painted Parish Hall! Thank you so much to Dave and his team at Majestic Painting along with Joe and Briarley for working so hard to make sure our spaces are well cared for and look sparkling!



THANK You for the generous donations already received! We continue to work toward our goal of completing this work by the end of the year.



## 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.**

- **Meeting: Piedmont Episcopal Church, 214 Church Street, Madison, Virginia**
- **Times: First Tuesdays of each month @ 6 PM  
October 1, 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](mailto:sharonsarbonne@aol.com)**

**Pastor Stephen Mathis, [sjwmathis89@gmail.com](mailto:sjwmathis89@gmail.com)**

**Rev. Kathryn Thomas, [kathrynhthomas@gmail.com](mailto:kathrynhthomas@gmail.com)**

## Please Remember!

**First Sunday** loose offering in our collection plate goes to **The Alms Fund**

**Fourth Sunday** loose offering in our collection plate goes to **Piedmont's Outreach.**



Email us

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

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