

# *St. Matthias' Episcopal Church*

**The Rev. Brenda S. Overfield, Rector**

11300 West Huguenot Road

Midlothian, VA 23113

## **Announcements for December 9, 2020**

### **GENERAL INFORMATION**

Morning Prayer via zoom—8:30 AM

For after-hour emergencies and pastoral care, please contact the Rector or Parish Administrator: 804-464-1842.

For baptisms, marriages, or funerals, please contact the Rector.

For use of the facilities, membership, or giving and pledges, please contact the Parish Administrator.

Church sponsored, Sunday bulletin announcements are due in the office by 12:00 PM, Tuesdays and should be submitted here:

[www.stmatmidlo.com/news-announcements](http://www.stmatmidlo.com/news-announcements)

Please see our community bulletin board in Morrison Hall for personal and community announcements.

### **OFFICE HOURS**

Monday—Thursday : 8:30 AM—3:30 PM

Friday 8:30 AM-12:30 PM

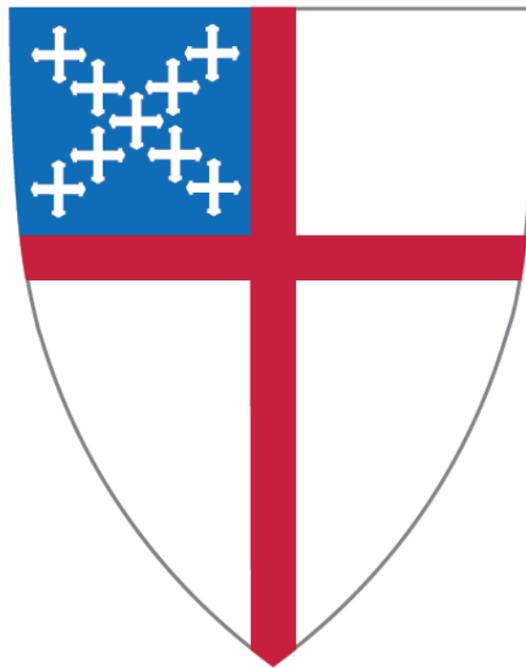
Masks Required.

Staff members are working from home and are checking voice mail and returning calls.

Phone: 804-464-1842 Fax: 804-594-5982

Weather/Emergency Text Updates: Text WeAreIAM to 84483

Web Site: [www.stmatmidlo.com](http://www.stmatmidlo.com) ~ Email: [st.matthias@stmatmidlo.com](mailto:st.matthias@stmatmidlo.com)



## Weekly Update

### THIS PLACE IS A MESS!

If ever there was a year we needed Advent, this is the year. We hardly know how to describe the year we have lived through. We hesitate to reflect on all the mess around us in 2020. All we know is that nothing seems right, nothing seems like it used to be, nothing. We need Advent!

The prophet Isaiah cried out for us, "O that you would tear open the heavens and come down ... To make your name known ... so that nations might tremble at your presence." So tear through the mess, O Lord, and come down to us again. We long to be your people, a people of hope.

We light a candle as a sign of our hope. Hope that you can meet us, O Lord, even in the mess of our world. Hope that you still see us, though we feel we are lost in the rubble. Let this light be the guide that brings us to Emmanuel once more.

O Come, O Come Emmanuel.

(Edited and Reprinted from Discipleship Ministries)



#### Sunday 11:00 AM Lessons and Carols Service Live Stream

Please click on the link below. Then scroll down to the large **Green** block titled **Sunday Services** and click on it, after that scroll down to the small [Sermon.net] box next to Rev. Brenda S. Overfield and click on it. " You are now Live Streaming the Sunday Service at St. Matthias Episcopal Church.

[Lessons & Carols Live Stream](#)

[Lessons & Carols Booklet](#)

### SHARING HOPE

God has given us to each other to help and support each other. At this time in all of our lives this is especially important. We would like to ask all of our congregation/ readership- if you would like to- to please share your hope with us. What is helping you through this time? Are there particular spiritual practices that offer strength and hope? How is God at work in your life right now?

We will post one or two submissions every week. Please click [here](#) to share your hope with us all:  
Thanks!

T'was a month before Christmas, and all through the town,  
People wore masks, that covered their frown.

Contagious and deadly, this virus spread fast, like a wildfire that starts when fueled by gas

Now it's November and cases are spiking,  
Wave two has arrived, much to our disliking.

And just 'round the corner -The holiday season,  
But why be merry? Is there even one reason?

But outside my window, the snow gently falls,  
And I think to myself, let's deck the halls!

Christmas ain't cancelled, and neither is hope.  
If we lean on each other, I know we can cope.

Submitted by Dave Randolph

Written by Shawna Hickling

Edited by Brenda Overfield

**DARKNESS TO LIGHT  
A LITURGY OF ADVENT LESSONS AND CAROLS**

We are very happy to announce that Lessons and Carols will take place this year!! - albeit a bit differently.



The service will be live streamed on Sunday, December 13 at 11:00AM. A recording of the service will be available after the service for you to watch at any time

Please use the links below to download the service booklet and to watch the service.

Thank you for your support and understanding. We hope you are as excited as we are!

The Music Ministers of St. Matthias

[Lessons & Carols Live Stream](#)

[Lessons & Carols Booklet](#)

**CHRISTMAS EVE AND CHRISTMAS SERVICES**

All Christmas Services will be held via Zoom.

Christmas Eve Services, Dec 24, 2020 will be at 5 & 10PM with a sharing of our prerecorded Christmas Pageant and the singing of Christmas Carols

Christmas Day, December 25, 2020 will be a special Christmas Prayer service with the singing of Christmas Carols and a Christmas Message at 10AM.

On Sunday, December 27<sup>th</sup>, St. Matthias will participate in a Diocesan-wide Service officiated by Bishop Susan Haynes. More specific information regarding the service time will be announced soon.

**SHELTER FEEDING SATURDAY DECEMBER 26TH:** The Shelter Feeding Ministry invites you to serve Saturday, December 26th. If you want to help with this wonderful ministry, please make 10 bagged lunches consisting of a sandwich, a fruit snack, a salty treat like chips, a sweet treat like cookies and a napkin. Please no condiments. If you make peanut butter and jelly sandwiches, please mark "PBJ" on the bag. It is very helpful if you are able to put the 10 lunch bags in one large paper bag or box. We will meet at 9am on Dec 26th in the parking lot BEHIND the church. Click on the link below to sign up or call or email Carrie [carriecdeane@aol.com](mailto:carriecdeane@aol.com) 804 986 6460 or Mary [maryellers@yahoo.com](mailto:maryellers@yahoo.com) 804 908 1575.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E044DAEA728A1F94-theshelter>

**Seekers Class Advent:** During Advent we will be using a resource from [forwardmovement.org](http://forwardmovement.org) called Waiting and Watching: Advent Word Reflection.

This daily devotional pairs with Advent Word, a global community praying and walking together- hosted by Virginia Theological Seminary.

You do not need to purchase the devotional to join the class. Discussions will focus on the Sunday Advent lectionary readings from which each word has been drawn.

December 6 Speak

December 13 Go

December 20 Rejoice



Communion on Wednesday: Suspended until further notice.

# WEDNESDAYS IN ADVENT

December 9 & 16 - 12:30 - 4:30

pm

- ⇒ Come by for prayers and meditative decorating of Nativity characters.
- ⇒ Tables will be along the sidewalk in front of the church (In case of rain, we will be safely distanced apart throughout the SS classrooms and Morrison Hall).
  - ⇒ The characters will be laminated - while you wait.
  - ⇒ Then you can hang them up in the trees in our church yard.
  - ⇒ This a fun event for all ages!

**CHARACTERS (Come once, twice, or all three weeks!):** shepherds, sheep, donkey, oxen, angels, Magi, camel, Mary, Joseph, & the baby Jesus.

## EMAIL OPTION:

Contact Kristen ([kristen.ketron@stmatmidlo.com](mailto:kristen.ketron@stmatmidlo.com)) if you would like to receive the characters by email to color at home and send back to the church

**\* PLEASE NOTE: CDC SAFETY PROTOCOLS - MASKS AND**

## Weekly Zoom Gatherings

All you have to do is click on the links below to join. By September 27 Zoom will require access codes for all meetings. If there is an access code listed with a link, you will need to use that access code to enter that meeting.

All Sunday Service information and links will sent to you in a separate email.

[Morning Prayer Sunday 8:30 AM](#) Pass Code: 847445

[Seekers Sunday 9:30 AM](#)

[Monday Evening Kerygma Monday 7:00 PM](#) Pass Code: 555850

[Men's Group Tuesday 8:30 AM](#)

[Passing the Peace Tuesday 7:00 PM](#) Pass Code: 579942

[Wednesday Kerygma 10:00 AM](#)

[Centering Prayer Wednesday 7:30 AM](#)

## SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sunday School meets via Zoom on Sunday mornings, from 12:15 - 1:00 pm. Feel free to eat lunch during the class.

Here is the link to the Zoom Sunday School class: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82002087633>

You will be in the waiting room until the host (Sunday School teacher) lets you into the meeting.

**December 13th** - *Mary Visits Elizabeth* (Activity: Illustrated Ornaments)

**December 20th** - *Jesus is Born* (Activity: Nativity Stickers Scene)

**December 24th** - Activity: Hot Chocolate Gratitude Party

**December 25th** - Activity: Say a Prayer for the Gift of Being Together! - muffin party

**December 27th & January 3rd** - NO SUNDAY SCHOOL

## **YOUTH MINISTRY**

### **Sundays**

We meet weekly, along with youth from St. Michael's, on Sundays from 4:00 - 5:00 pm via Zoom.

Here is the link to the Zoom Youth Ministry meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81326382189>

**December 13th & 20th** - *Merry Christmas to Me* (a series on giving) We all know the Christmas season is supposed to be about generosity, family, and celebrating the gift of Jesus . . . but be honest — how much of your Christmas holiday is actually spent thinking about yourself and what you want? Since we're all familiar with this selfishness struggle, this 3-week series will take us back to the very first Christmas — a day that was only possible because of the selflessness, generosity, and sacrifice of God and God's people. On the first Christmas, Mary and Joseph gave up their comfort, the shepherds gave their stories, the wise men gave their worship, and God gave everything. So, this Christmas, what will you give in response?

**NO YOUTH MEETING - DECEMBER 27TH & JANUARY 3RD**

### **EYC Game Night**

Don't forget that there are youth Zoom game nights on the first and third Thursdays of the month at 5:00 p.m. December 17th is the next date. All youth are invited! [Click here to join us.](#)

### **Contributions to the Church**

Please continue to offer your faithful gifts by mailing your check to our church office at 11300 West Huguenot Road, Midlothian VA 23113. Please be sure to note on your check if it is for the General Fund or the Outreach Fund and or how you would like your amount split between the two.

Now that staff are in the office you may also give via debit/credit card over the phone by calling Br. Mark.

On-line giving has been set up and activated to provide an avenue to continue to receive members' donations. This includes debit and credit cards as well as direct ACH transactions. We offer these various forms of payment of your donations for your convenience and ease, but never with the wish that you indebt yourselves in so doing. We are grateful for your generosity.

On-line giving is available through our website at [www.stmatmidlo.com](http://www.stmatmidlo.com).

### **Text Giving**

Text: Stmatmidlo and Amount to 73256

## **PRAYER LIST**

*Prayer requests can be sent to Br. Mark at [Mark.jenkins@stmatmidlo.com](mailto:Mark.jenkins@stmatmidlo.com).*

***Our Congregation is asked to keep in their prayers the following:***

Ed	Gretchen	Corey
John Allen	Dick Harman	Spencer
Madison	Ed McCowan	Zach
Sheila Bradshaw	/Paul Wiedeman	
Luca	/Mike Lecik	
Nancy Petrelli		
Albert Uzel	In thanksgiving for the wedding of Monte &	
/David Baum	Patty Campbell	
The Bowman Family		
Cathy Britton	For the repose of the souls of Malcolm	
Larry	McCracken, David Britton & Basil Surgant.	
David Ottoway		
Sarah	We also pray for those in the military, especial-	
Gwen	ly:	
Pat	Todd Batteau	
Dot Worsham	Sooky Brooks	
/Mark Redstrom	Alex Burton	
Kirby	Christopher Garland	
Annie	Michael Handlan	
Rob	Jake Hentges	
Mary	Rebecca Jenkins	
/Pamela	Donta Mason	
Rinaldo Redstrom	Tom Montgomery	
Claude	Phillip Plourd	
Elliott Woodaman	Andrew Rodgers	
Jane Griffin	Heather Smith	
Liz Brengel	Hank Truillo	
Rodger Hardy	Nat Williams	

## **MEMBERS CELEBRATING BIRTHDAYS**

Tee Kirtley	14	Hayden Kirtley	17
Ervin Reid	15	Megan McEllen	17
Mark Jenkins	17		
Owen Kirkland	17		