

St. Matthias' Episcopal Church

The Rev. Brenda S. Overfield, Rector

11300 West Huguenot Road

Midlothian, VA 23113

Announcements for December 16, 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

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

OFFICE HOURS

By Appointment Only

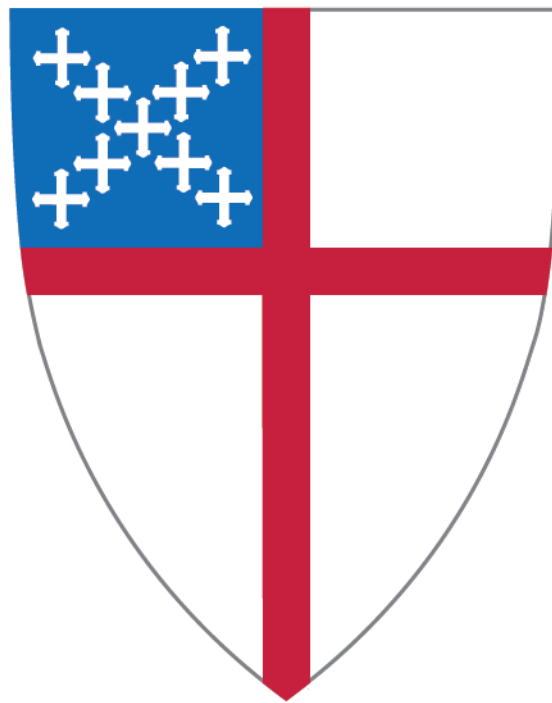
Masks Required.

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 ~ Email: st.matthias@stmatmidlo.com



Weekly Update

DECK THE HALLS

We want everything to look nice: the decorations of the season, our homes with their lights and tinsel, wreaths and ribbons. We want to lighten the darkness around us, bring beauty to the ugliness that wears us down. We decorate, because it is tradition. Because it lifts our hearts. Because it makes us feel like children again. We deck our halls because company is coming.

The prophet Isaiah smiled when he said, "God will give a garland instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, a mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit." No matter how far we feel from the spirit of the season, God promises to decorate us with love and with joy.

We light a candle as a sign of our joy in the beautiful things of this season – not just the things that glitter and flash, but the deeper things, the beauty of the heart and the soul, the beauty of love shared in service and hospitality. We light this candle of joy because company is coming. O Come, O Come Emmanuel.

(Edited and reprinted from Discipleship Ministries)

Yours in Faith,
Brenda+

SHARING HOPE

"God" Kathryn Scott

Sitting on my porch early this morning
Wrapped in a shawl, very granny like
Listening to the rain
Drinking my coffee with cream
Just perfect I think
Thank you God
Sign of the cross
Apostles Creed
Lord's Prayer
Just as I begin the first Hail Mary
The wind chimes ring
Just perfect I think
Thank you God
Thru the first and second decade
As I begin the third decade of Hail Mary I see a bright red large Cardinal Sitting in the holly tree Beautiful, Just perfect I think. Thank you God.
As I continue, I see two red Cardinals on the ground slowly hopping my way. Tears begin to flow.
I continued to pray. Just perfect I think. Thank you God.
The three Cardinals stayed with me thru the remainder of my prayers.
Just perfect I think
Thank you God
You surround me
You fill me
You protect me
You love me
Oh what a beautiful morning
Thank you God!

Building Closed: For the safety of the staff and those working in the pantry, the building is currently closed. If you need speak to the Rector or a staff member you can call 804-464-1842. Should you need to come into the building, please call the office to make an appointment.

Early Deadline: If you have items that need to appear in the December 23 & 30 E-news, they must be submitted to the office no later than noon on Monday, December 21.

Food Pantry Collection Day: The Food Pantry will be collecting food in the parking lot behind Morrison Hall on Friday, December 18 from **10:00 AM -11:00 AM.**

Please remember that when you bring your Food Pantry donations to park in the parking lot behind Morrison Hall, remain in your car. Pantry volunteers will take your donation from your car.

Since the building is currently closed donations to the pantry must be brought to the pantry on the 18th.

The pantry is in need of the following items:

- Jelly
- Mac & Cheese
- Cereal
- Cookies

Last Check Run for 2020: The last checks for 2020 will be printed on Tuesday, December 22. If you need a check cut for expenses, please have your request to the office by 3:30 PM on Monday, December 21.

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 27th, 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.

Virtual Christmas Pageant 2020: Thanks to everyone who participated in our pageant this year. We will be broadcasting the pageant at both the 5:00 pm and 10:00 pm Christmas Eve services on Zoom. After that, the pageant will be available to view on our St. Matthias' YouTube channel. We will provide information on how to access that after Christmas.

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 804 986 6460 or Mary maryvellers@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 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 20 Rejoice

December 27 No Class

Seekers Class: Starting on Sunday, January 3rd, the class will discuss Richard Rohr's Daily Meditations from the Center for Action and Contemplation. www.cac.org This class meets via Zoom at 9:30 on Sundays and the link for the meeting can be found in the Enews or the Morning Prayer email. All are welcome.

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) 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 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 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

The EYC will be hosting their last game night of 2020 on December 17 at 5:00 p.m. We will spend this time talking about Advent and playing some holiday games, so make sure to mark it on your calendar. We are always excited to welcome new youth to join our game nights, so we hope to see you there!

[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.

Text Giving

Text: Stmatmidlo and Amount to 73256

PRAYER LIST

Prayer requests can be sent to Br. Mark at Mark.jenkins@stmatmidlo.com.

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

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

MEMBERS CELEBRATING BIRTHDAYS

Sus-z Moore	20	Melody Gray	24
George Snavelly	20	Lenny Anderson	25
Robin Hegner	21	Jimmy Atkinson	26
Nancy Matthews	22	Amenta Buckner	26
Chip Thompson	23		