

Newsletter on November 14, 2024



## The Weekly Franciscan

### **Twenty-sixth Sunday after Pentecost**

**Sunday, November 17th, 2024**

You are welcome to the

**8:00 a.m.** Service of Holy Eucharist Rite I with  
the Rev. E. Weston Mathews, Celebrant and Preacher  
and

**10:00 a.m.** Service of Holy Eucharist Rite II with  
the Rev. E. Weston Mathews, Celebrant and Preacher,  
with the St. Francis Choir

Children's Chapel is offered during the Sermon  
Coffee Hour Follows Each Service in Millen Hall

[The 10:00 a.m. Service is also live-streamed on YouTube](#)

[View this Sunday's Worship Bulletin](#)

**The Liturgy of the Word**

The First Reading | [1 Samuel 1:4-20](#)

The Response | [Psalm 16](#)

The Second Reading | [Hebrews 10:11-14 \(15-18\) 19-25](#)

The Gospel Reading | [Mark 13:1-8](#)

### **Parish Prayer List**

We pray especially for Lawrence, Ginger & Ed, Bishop Gayle, David, Jon, Jessica, Barbara, Steve, Dave, and Catherine; Lynda, Melissa, Paula, Trevor, Clara Sue, Grace, Jeanne, Sofia & Larry, Debra, Taylor, Kelly & Alex, Nancy, Nick & Hilary, Linn, and Dut.

### **Altar Flowers**

Sunday's Altar Flowers are given to the Glory of God by Karen Butler, in loving memory of her husband, Neil and her daughter, Molly.

### **Worship Minister Training**

#### **LEM, Acolyte, and Chalice Bearer Training for Adults**

On **SUN-17-NOV & SUN-24-NOV, at both 9:15 a.m. and 11:15 a.m.**, training for these worship ministry roles will be offered for adults, in the Sanctuary.

#### **Youth Training for Worship Ministry service**

On **SUN-1-DEC at 11:15 a.m.**, training for Youth interested in serving as an Acolyte, Chalice Bearer and/or Gospel Book Bearer will be offered in the

Sanctuary. Open to all High School, Middle School and 5th/6th Grade students.

**What are these Worship Ministry Roles?**

**LEM** = Lay Eucharist Minister who serves both as a Reader and as a Chalice Bearer.

**Acolyte** = Person who assists the clergy during a worship service or procession. At St. Francis this includes crucifers (cross bearers), Gospel bearers, torch bearers and, on occasion, a children's cross crucifer.

**Chalice Bearer** = Person who, at Communion, offers one of the two chalices.



St. Fran  
EPISCOPAL CH

**Help to Make the Future of St. Francis Bright!**

**Pledging for 2025 Stewardship Campaign**

"Our destiny is to fulfill those things upon which we focus most intently. So choose to keep your focus on that which is truly magnificent, beautiful, uplifting and joyful. Our lives are always moving toward something."

~ Ralph Marston (American football player)

St. Francis' church life, as the Body of Christ, is moving toward a bright future with your help! **Thankfully we have received 46 pledges totaling \$327,380 which is 55% of our \$600,000 goal.** Add your light to make our future brighter and pledge today.

These Franciscans & Friends have pledged:

Anonymous (11)

Terri Adams

Kathy & Dana Anderson

Clara Sue Ashley

Dut & Carolyn Brown

Sharon Callaway

Carmela & Charles Condro

Lynda Davis

Mimi & Brice Eldridge

Sarah & Rick Entsminger

Brenda & Chris Giragosian

Val & Bruce Goddard

Ginger & Edward Gotliffe

Lisa & Joe Hawke

Cary & Ian Holman

Mary & Charlie Jackson

Elaine Jeffrey

Elizabeth & Joshua Kim

Loriana & Weston Mathews

Jessica & Kevin Maxson

Beth & Walt Meyer

Jennifer & Ray Murphy

Linn Perkins

Larry & Reyna Pratt

Jane & Bill Rachal

Tamber & Mike Ray

Molly & Joe Reynolds

Ginger Roll

Jack & Lori Shafran



Leslie Siegmund & Jack Mathias

Judy Stocks

Jeanne & Larry Vote

Sandy & John Walker

Pat & Paul Ward

Tom & Joy Wood

Nan & Allen Young



**St. Gabriel's Annual BBQ Fundraiser in Leesburg on Saturday, November 16 at Noon**

St. Gabriel's (San Gabriel) in Leesburg will hold its annual BBQ fundraiser on **Saturday, November 16, 2024, from 12:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. in the Parish Hall at St. James' (14 Cornwall Street NW, Leesburg, VA)**. Volunteers from St. Gabriel's will make a brief announcement at both services, and you can join them during coffee hour to learn more about their social justice ministries, purchase tickets, or make a donation.

Proceeds from the event will support the following programs:

**Educando Con Amor (Educating with Love):** A free 9-week STEAM summer camp in Sterling and Leesburg.

**Food Justice Ministry:** In partnership with Shelter House.

**Episcopal Borderland Ministry in Texas.**

The Very Rev. Daniel Vélez-Rivera

Saint Gabriel's Episcopal Church ~ Iglesia San Gabriel

8 Cornwall St. NW. Leesburg, VA 20176

Office: 703-779-3616 Cell: 571-293-0070

[www.saintgabriels.net](http://www.saintgabriels.net)

Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/StGabrielsEpiscopal/>



Tickets are available online at [saintgabriels.net/bbq](http://saintgabriels.net/bbq) or via this QR code.

Prices are \$25 for adults (ages 13+), \$10 for children (ages 4-12), and free for children ages 3 and under.

The DARK HORSE THEATRE Performances originally scheduled for SAT-16-NOV at St. Francis have been postponed to the Spring of 2025.

EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE HOLY FAMILY  
in Mills River, North Carolina



**Update from the Rev. Tracey Kelly, Rector, Episcopal Church of the Holy Family**

*In response to the aid that has been received by this church community in Mills River, NC, from St. Francis and many others, we share part of a pastoral letter from the rector of this church, the Rev. Tracey Kelly:*



Dear sisters and brothers,

Recently, Hurricane Helene swept across Western North Carolina leaving a devastating swath of destruction in her wake. The Major Disaster Designation in North Carolina alone includes forty counties and the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians. The extent of loss of life and property is heartbreaking.

**What happens after Helene? Help and hope abide.**

Within days of the storm, friends, family members, and colleagues began reaching out to us asking how they could contribute financially. I have witnessed the love of neighbors both nearby and from afar wanting to offer help and hope. Although there is an overwhelming amount of work that must be done in the rebuilding of our mountain communities, I know that Church of the Holy Family will make a noteworthy impact in the lives of some of the households and families around us.

Although we are a small church, the people of Holy Family have long embodied God's love with generosity and care for others. I thank you for your continued prayers for the people and communities of Western North Carolina.

Peace and blessings,

Tracey Kelly

**Congratulations to our Scout Troop #55**



WING SWEEP |

## Virginia Wing Cadets Finish Second in Drone Meet



Cadets from the Virginia Wing's William P. Knight Composite Squadron teamed up with Scouts from their area July 22-24 at EAA Adventure Oshkosh to finish second nationally in the Beginner Division of the Academy of Model Aeronautics UAS4STEM drone competition.

The five Beginners Division teams, which also included an Alabama Wing entry consisting of four cadets in the Redstone Composite Squadron and two in the Mountain Lakes Composite Squadron, competed in carrying out the fundamentals of drone programming and flying.

Another team from the Redstone Composite Squadron competed in the Advanced Division, as did a team from the Maryland Wing's St. Mary's Composite Squadron. Those teams worked to develop a mechanism to pick up and transport items to different locations.

UAS4STEM is the Academy for Model Aeronautics'

Unmanned Aerial Systems for Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math program.


The second-place finish earned a \$1,000 check for the Virginia entry, competing under the team name "55 Knights."

"I'm in awe of this team and proud of the way they melded together and worked to accomplish such a challenging task," said Capt. Alice Chan, assistant team manager. "From total newbies and even a tree crash mid-mission, it goes to show the capabilities of these cadets and Scouts that they were able to complete the mission successfully and placed second place among other great talents."

"Seeing members from two different American youth organizations, cadets from Civil Air Patrol and Scouts from Scouting America, working together to exercise leadership and teamwork to accomplish the UAS4STEM competition makes me really proud of these future STEM leaders of our nation!" added 1st Lt. Jeff Ye, team manager. ▲



(Front row, from left) First Lt. and Troop 55B Scoutmaster Jeff Ye (team manager); Cadet Airman Joshua Murrell; Cadet Airman 1st Class Jackson Whitt; then-Brig. Gen. Regena Aye, CAP national vice commander at the time; Chief Master Sgt. Todd Parsons, CAP national command chief; Troop 55G Life Scout Joy He; Cadet Capt. and Troop 55B Life Scout Thomas Ye; Capt. Alice Chan (assistant team manager); (second row, from left) Troop 55B First Class Scout Alexander Fang; Troop 55B trainee Aristotle Feng; and Troop 55B Scout Cary Zhang.



*Samuel Shadid advances up the via ferrata route at NROCKS. It was an intimidating ascent, but climbing with his troop encouraged him.*

*NROCKS Outdoor Adventures manager Bryan Williams gives a safety briefing to Samuel and Kyle Shadid. Before going on any climbing adventure, review and follow the safety rules. You can read Scouting America's guidelines in the Climb On Safely and Belay On guides.*

## THE IRON WAY

When climbing on natural rock, you seek small ledges to cling onto. In a gym, you grip artificial handholds. On a via ferrata route, you grab iron rungs embedded into the rock. It's like climbing a ladder — and Troops 55 of Great Falls, Virginia, climbed this way to spectacular views.

"Via ferrata" is Italian for "by way of iron." At NROCKS, an outdoor climbing center in eastern West Virginia, the Scouts latched onto a belay cable and climbed a series of paths up vertical rock faces. After a few hours, they gained more than 1,000 feet in elevation.

"It mimics bouldering," says Joy He, 16, a Star Scout. "It was less climbing up and more climbing a distance."

It's an intimidating challenge, but it was one the Scouts were up to.

After a safety briefing, they geared up, hooked their carabiners to the cable and began their ascent. Some paths had

200-foot drops. It's not a race to the top; every movement required focus to safely complete the journey.

"I ignored the height," says Life Scout Thomas Ye, 16. "I just pretended the ground wasn't as far as it appeared to be."

The Scouts had moments to rest and take in beautiful views of the Allegheny Mountains. They even got to cross a suspension bridge that hung 150 feet above the ground. When they reached the top, any nervousness was replaced by a feeling of accomplishment.

"I thought it was really exciting how our troops tried something new and challenging," says Samuel Shadid, 13, a Second Class Scout. "We do really cool outings, and I think via ferrata was adventurous and challenged people's fear of heights. Overall, I thought it was really fun."



*Yuanqin Tang reaches for an iron rung.*

*Eli Johnson attaches his carabiners to the belay cable. "It was one of the most intense experiences I've ever had," he says of the climb. "It was challenging, but reaching the top made me feel like I could conquer anything."*

### **Nursery Volunteers Needed**

We have a wonderful nursery for babies, toddlers, and young children that runs during the 10 a.m. service every Sunday, headed by an experienced attendant, Rita Arteaga. However, there is a requirement for a second adult to be in the nursery at all times, and so we have a rotating roster of about seven faithful volunteers. We need more!

Are you able to devote one Sunday morning every few months to the nursery? It's fun, and it's an important ministry as we try to welcome more young families to St. Francis. Volunteers need to complete about 2 hours of online training. Please contact Lynn Fallon in the parish office at [admin@stfrancisgreatfalls.org](mailto:admin@stfrancisgreatfalls.org).



### **Thanksgiving Food Drive**

Please help [Second Story](#) (a local organization dedicated to youth and their families) provide nutritious Thanksgiving meals to the many needy families in their programs. There are three ways to help.

Send or bring a \$60 check to St. Francis Church for a Thanksgiving “basket” of food. Please write “Food Drive” on your check.

Use [PayPal-Donate Now](#) to donate \$60. Select Outreach from the optional



drop-down list and put “Food Drive” in the memo field.

Assemble a food “basket” to feed six people including all of the items on the list below. Please put the grocery gift card in an envelope marked “Food Drive” and put it in the offering plate or send/give it to the church office. Food “baskets” should be put in the bin in the hall outside Millen Hall. Questions? Contact Ginger Roll at [rollginger@icloud.com](mailto:rollginger@icloud.com)

Thanksgiving Food List to Feed Six People

- o Safeway or Giant grocery gift card for \$25 (for meat and milk)
- o Macaroni and cheese
- o Cooking oil
- o 4 cans of vegetables (2 types)
- o Dried black beans
- o Rice
- o Maseca (or other brand) masa flour
- o 2 cans of fruit
- o Box of dessert mix

**Drive ends this Sunday, November 17th**

**Thanksgiving Day service, 11/28 at 10:00 a.m.**

**Holy Eucharist Rite II, spoken service**

**St. Francis Women’s Group**

Friday Coffee Time Shift: Following up on feedback, the Friday coffee meet



ups at Starbucks will start at 10:30 a.m. instead of 10:00 a.m. The Group meeting time is **10:30 a.m. until Noon**, but we are flexible. Show up when you can and stay for as long or as little as you'd like. Moreover, if the conversation is good, those with the time are encouraged to stay longer and chat. If you arrive at 10:30 a.m. and no one is there, please wait a few minutes to allow others the time to arrive.

In addition, the Women's Group will not meet on Friday, November 29th.



St. Francis  
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

**Langley High School Seeks Career Day Volunteers: THU-21-NOV at 9:30 a.m.**

Can you spare two hours to talk to Langley High School students about your career? Langley's annual **Career Connections** is on **Thursday, November 21 from 9:30-11:30am**. This is a great event for students to hear from seasoned professionals about their career path and advice for high school students. Several parents or community members are needed. Complete the registration form [2024 Career Connections Registration Form](#)

or contact [langleycareerconnection@gmail.com](mailto:langleycareerconnection@gmail.com) with any questions ASAP.

## **Ongoing Weekly Activities**

### **Morning Prayer offered MON-FRI, at 8:00 a.m. via Zoom.**

All are invited to immerse themselves in this supportive offering from St. Francis Church where we regularly pray for one another and our mission in the world.

[Click here to connect to Morning Prayer via Zoom.](#)

Zoom ID: 968 1679 4908; Passcode: church

### **Contemplative Prayer: Mondays at 7:30-8:30 p.m.**

We hope you can join us via Zoom videoconference.

For more information and any questions, please contact the coordinator for the program: Kathy Anderson, 703-476-9065 or [kquinnanderson@gmail.com](mailto:kquinnanderson@gmail.com). Our group has been traveling and very busy, so we decided that we would NOT hold prayer meetings in December and encourage everyone to help and attend the Advent services on Sunday, DEC 1, 8 and 15 at 5:00 p.m.

[Click here to connect to Contemplative Prayer via Zoom.](#)

Zoom ID: 998 1159 6134; Passcode: church

### **Men's Group: Wednesdays 8:35 a.m.**

Discussing: a six-week course on the book of Genesis entitled: *The Genesis Story: Reading Biblical Narratives*. Join us every Wednesday morning via Zoom. Questions? Contact Stu Edwards at [elchivogoat@cs.com](mailto:elchivogoat@cs.com)

[Click here to connect to the Men's Group via Zoom.](#)

Zoom ID: 922 8116 0056; Passcode: church

### **St. Francis Social Hour meets on Wednesdays at 5:30 p.m.**

Join us for casual conversation. Grab your favorite beverage and let's reconnect!

[Click here to connect to the St. Francis Social Hour.](#)

Zoom ID: 935 2210 0835; Passcode: church

**Thursday Afternoon Bible Study at 5:00 p.m.**

Meetings take place Thursdays at 5:00 p.m. Everyone is invited to join and participate in interesting discussions. The Kerygma Study selected for Advent: "The Light Will Shine." This study consists of five lessons and we would like to finish by December 12 before the Holidays. On the 12th, we will conclude with an in person meeting at Katie's Coffeehouse in Great Falls at 9:00 a.m.

For further information contact Amelia Logan at [ameliavinteriors@gmail.com](mailto:ameliavinteriors@gmail.com)

[Click here to connect to the Thursday Afternoon Bible Study.](#)

Zoom ID: 836 1505 5434; Passcode: TABS24

**Women's Group Coffee on Fridays from 10:30 a.m. to NOON at Starbucks in Great Falls**

The St. Francis Women's Group has an open invitation to meet at the Starbucks in Great Falls every Friday morning. Please join us.

**Second Story Dinners: Sundays at 5:15 p.m.**

Needed: Volunteers to prepare and deliver Sunday dinners to the Second Story Teen Crisis Center on Gallows Road. Volunteers work solo or in pairs, according to their wishes.

Dinners are made on the first, third, fourth, and fifth Sundays of the month. The count for a meal typically ranges from five to eight persons. It has been as many as twelve. Volunteers receive reminders when their Sundays are coming up.

Please contact Jennifer Murphy at [jenniferomurphy@gmail.com](mailto:jenniferomurphy@gmail.com) if you would like to volunteer for this ministry or if you have any questions.

Learn  
more  
about  
our life at  
St.  
Francis



# St. Francis

## EPISCOPAL CHURCH

through  
our new website [stfrancisgreatfalls.org](http://stfrancisgreatfalls.org):

- worship services including daily Morning Prayer
- community concerts
- pastoral care
- Creche preschool ministries
- local and international outreach events
- fellowship opportunities
- Bible studies and small group opportunities including Contemplative Prayer

**Emergency Pastoral Number: 703.759.2082 x 102**

Do you have a news item you would like to share through the Weekly Franciscan? Or do you have a photo from life at St. Francis you would like to submit? We welcome and rely on your participation.

[admin@stfrancisgreatfalls.org](mailto:admin@stfrancisgreatfalls.org)

### **Clergy and Staff**

The Rev. E. Weston Mathews, Priest-in-Charge

Mr. Larry Vote, Music Director

Mr. Sasha Beresovsky, Organist

Ms. Cristi Leslie, Creche Preschool Director

Mr. Dominic Pelegrin, Sexton

Ms. Rita Arteaga, Nursery Attendant

Ms. Lynn Fallon, Parish Administrator

### **2024 Vestry Members**

Rick Larson, Senior Warden

Lynda Davis, Junior Warden

Cathryn Lee, Register

Kathy Anderson            Olivia Grady

Elizabeth Kim            Larry Pratt

Mike Semko                Sandra Walker

Molly Reynolds, serving Treasurer

[treasurer@stfrancisgreatfalls.org](mailto:treasurer@stfrancisgreatfalls.org)

Brice Eldridge, Facilities Manager

[facilities@stfrancisgreatfalls.org](mailto:facilities@stfrancisgreatfalls.org)