



St. Francis
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

9220 Georgetown Pike
Great Falls, Virginia 22066
www.stfrancisgreatfalls.org

The Weekly Franciscan

The First Sunday after the Epiphany

Sunday, January 12th, 2025

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 | [Isaiah 43:1-7](#)

The Response | [Psalm 29](#)

The Second Reading | [Acts 8:14-17](#)

The Gospel Reading | [Luke 3:15-17, 21-22](#)

Parish Prayer List

We pray especially for Barbara & Bill, Josie, Terri, Jeff Sr., Hugh Sr., Nora Lee & Richard, Cathy, Lawrence, Bishop Gayle, David, Jon, Jessica, Paula, Trevor, Clara Sue, Grace, Sofia & Larry, Debra, Taylor, Kelly & Alex, Nick & Hilary, and Dut.



St. Francis
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Let's Make the Future of St. Francis Bright!

We are extremely humbled and grateful for the response from all who have pledged in 2025.



"Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise!"

~ Psalm 95:2

Stay tuned to see how, when and where God is present and working in the Body of Christ collectively, and in each one of us in the New Year.

We have received 90 Pledges for a total of \$549,670

Anyone who hasn't pledged and would like to, please send your pledge to Molly Reynolds at: treasurer@stfranciscgreatfalls.org or drop it in the offering basket.

Thank you to these Franciscans & Friends who have pledged:

Anonymous (21)
Terri Adams
Nathan Ambler & Paul Herman
Jackie Amthor
Kathy & Dana Anderson
Clara Sue Ashley
David & Olyia Black
Mattie & Duncan Bowden
Dut & Carolyn Brown
Nora Lee & Richard Brown
Nancy Burkley
Sharon Callaway
Ellen Calvin
Anne Carson
Carmela & Charles Condro
Lynda Davis
Janet Durfee
Mimi & Brice Eldridge
Sarah & Rick Entsminger
Nilda Ferrari
Mary & Tom Gillespie
Brenda & Chris Giragosian
Val & Bruce Goddard
Ginger & Edward Gotliffe
Nick & Hillary Haight
Barbara & Mike Hattwick
Lisa & Joe Hawke
Kathryn Hinton
Carrie & Ian Holman
Mary & Charlie Jackson
Elaine Jeffrey
Susan Kawmy
Jane Keihn
Jon Lynn Kerchner
Patrick & Leslie Killoran

Elizabeth & Joshua Kim
Jan & Bill Lane
Dick & Celia Larkin
Rick Larson
Amelia & Will Logan
Chris & Bob MacKichan
Loriana & Weston Mathews
Jessica & Kevin Maxson
Beth & Walt Meyer
Jennifer & Ray Murphy
Paul Mutino & Karen Levy
Laila & Ridley Nelson
Wendy & Gary Pan
Linn Perkins
Larry & Reyna Pratt
Jane & Bill Rachal
Tamber & Mike Ray
Molly & Joe Reynolds
Cate & Steve Riihimaki
Ginger Roll
Chris & Ray Rollins
Jennifer & Mike Semko
Jack & Lori Shafran
Michael Shuler
Leslie Siegmund & Jack Mathias
Judy Stocks
Jeanne & Bill Swiacki
Pepin Tuma
Jeanne & Larry Vote
Sandy & John Walker
Pat & Paul Ward
Lois & Darren Willcox
Tom & Joy Wood
Kristi & Dave Yarnall
Nan & Allen Young

Giving Envelopes

Envelopes are ready for everyone who used them in 2024. You can pick them up in the vestibule at the church entrance. If you would like envelopes for 2024 but have not requested them, please let me know and they will be out the following week. Molly Reynolds -- treasurer@stfranciscgreatfalls.org

Outreach Meeting this Sunday, JAN-12 in Millen Hall Annex after the 10:00 a.m. service

We will hold our first Outreach/Ezo meeting this coming **Sunday, January 12, after the 10 a.m. service, in the Millen Hall Annex**. All are welcome to attend.

Main topics:

- 0 Recap of the 2024 Samaritan Ministries of Greater Washington Christmas party**
- 0 Initial review of our Outreach/Ezo priorities and calendar for 2025**
- 0 Planning for Ezo Sunday**
- 0 Discussion of creating a group to begin planning for Bishop Isaac's visit (expected in 2026.)**

Search Committee for Director of Family Ministries Meeting in Conference Room, this Sunday, January 12th, following the 10:00 a.m. service

**Please mark your calendar for the
"De-Greening St. Francis" this Sunday, January 12th,
after the 10:00 a.m. service.**

Amadeus Concerts



MELE Rensemble

Folk Impressions

Sunday, January 12, 2025 at 4:00 pm

Saint Francis Episcopal Church, 9220 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls, VA 22066

Virtuoso pianist Tanya Gabrielian ("commanding presence"—*Washington Post*) is joined by National Symphony Orchestra musicians Angelia Cho (violin) and Helen Lee (cello) with three foundational piano trio works: Haydn's beloved No. 39 in G major, Dvořák's intense Op. 65 in F minor, and Shostakovich's complex Op. 67 in E minor. All three works are informed by traditional musical styles of eastern Europe.

Tickets \$50; Young Adults between 19 and 29 can purchase tickets for \$25;
Students 18 and younger and active-duty military admitted free of charge.

[Buy tickets online](#) or at the door



Amadeus Concerts programming is supported, in part, by ArtsFairfax, and by the Virginia Commission for the Arts, which receives support from the Virginia General Assembly and the National Endowment for the Arts, a federal agency.

Amadeus Concerts thanks our 2024-2025 Season Corporate Sponsors: Dominion Law Group, McLean Racquet & Health Club, and The Virginian.

Amadeus Concerts • PO Box 543 • Great Falls, VA 22066
703.759.5334 • www.amadeusconcerts.com
A. Scott Wood, Artistic & Executive Director

[Click here to buy Amadeus Concert tickets online.](#)



SAVE THE DATE:

**Sunday, January 19, 2025 for the
St. Francis Annual Congregational Meeting and Election
of New Vestry Members**

This meeting will commence **after the 10:00 a.m. service** this day, in the Sanctuary. In the meantime, we are calling for **Annual Reports** from "the usual suspects" to be delivered to the parish administrator admin@stfrancisgreatfalls.org *by no later than SUN-12-JAN 2025*. Those from whom a report is needed have already been notified. Thank you for your consideration.

**Newcomers' Brunch:
Sunday, January 26th**

The Invite, Welcome, Connect (IWC) Committee is hosting a brunch in the parish hall for newcomers on **January 26, after the 10 am service**. The brunch is open to all members of the church, but the program will be oriented toward our newer individuals and families. The IWC Committee would love to see a mix of newcomers and longstanding parishioners! If you plan to attend, please also let us know, so that we can plan accordingly.



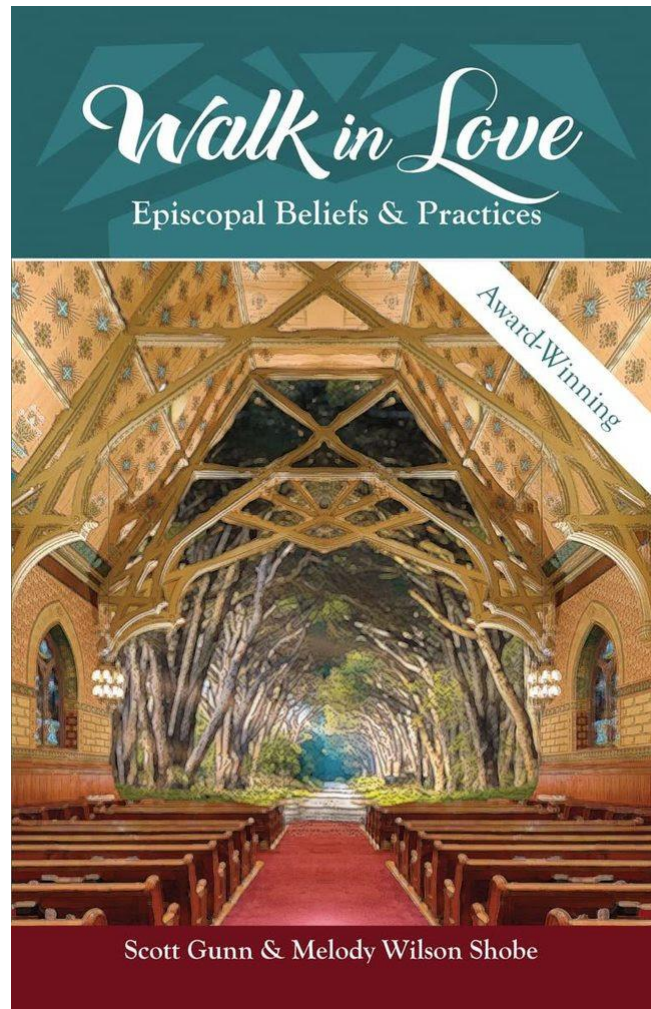
Also, the IWC Committee could use some help with food, so let us know if you are able to bring something. You can respond with your attendance (and food contributions) to Leslie Siegmund. Thank you!



The St. Francis Vestry Invites You to a Special Concert on Sunday, January 26th, 2025

Join us for a celebration of the St. Francis community, its renewed horizons, growing strengths and a hopeful future for an immersive Christian community of love and kindness.

Music and refreshments will be on hand at St. Francis as **Words&Music** returns to **Millen Hall on Sunday, January 26th at 4:00 p.m.** to entertain us with "Let's Dance" featuring songs of love and romance! Be swept you off your feet listening to classical and modern tunes for toe-tapping enjoyment. Presented by Molly and Joe Reynolds along with the St. Francis Vestry. Bring your friends to this free event for a memorable afternoon of entertainment!



The Inquirer's Class:

All who seek are welcome

Come to the Inquirer's Class with your questions about the Episcopal Church, the Anglican tradition, and what it means to follow the Way of Jesus.

**Spring 2025 Class: Wednesday evenings, February 5 - March 12,
6:30 - 8:00 p.m., taught by the Rev. Weston Mathews.**

This class is designed for anyone interested in learning about the Episcopal Church and its Anglican heritage, as well as for anyone who wants to delve more deeply into the Christian way of life generally. Although we will cover several topics and conclude the series with an Instructed Eucharist, this class is also grounded in seeking; therefore, significant time will be spent during each session

on your questions.

Any adult or teenager who might wish to be confirmed or formally received into the Episcopal Church should attend these classes, but many long-time Franciscans and newcomers may wish to participate as a kind of refresher, or as a way to sort through some of the questions of faith that are common to many of us.

In this class our text will be *Walk In Love: Episcopal Beliefs & Practices* by Scott Gunn and Melody Wilson Shobe. [You may purchase the book through Amazon, here.](#) A limited number of books will be available in the office to borrow if you are unable to purchase one.

Sign up in any of the following ways:

- o Email Priest-in-Charge Weston Mathews rector@stfrancisgreatfalls.org
- o Use the sign-up sheet at the Welcome Table at the entrance of the church
- o Call or visit the parish office 703.759.2082 x101



SAVE THE DATES:

Second Sunday Contemplative Worship Series begins

Sunday, February 9th at 5:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary

Through candlelit prayer, contemplative silence, poetry, beautiful music, and Holy Communion from the Iona Celtic tradition, this service is different from what we offer on Sunday morning. A brief reflection on spiritual journey will also be offered by a member of St. Francis.

This worship series will be held on the second Sunday night of each month (except for August.) If you are looking for a new or different way to worship and a space to find your sacred center in the midst of a busy, distracted life, this may be the service for you.



Request for Auction Items:

2025 St. Francis Dinner & Auction

We are excited to come together in eight weeks for an evening of generosity and connection at the **2025 St. Francis Black Tie Dinner and Auction**. We have begun seeking auction donations for this year's live and silent auctions. The Saturday, March 1st event will support:

0 Diocese of Ezo in South Sudan

0 Hurricane Helene recovery in North Carolina and

0 St. Francis' operating fund

Your creative contributions make a real difference in inspiring enthusiastic bidding. [Find creative ideas and suggestions in the auction form by clicking here.](#)

Ready to contribute? [Complete and submit auction form by clicking here.](#)

If you have questions, please contact Kathy Ditmore or Jennifer Murphy at 2025stfauctionanddinner@gmail.com

Save the Date!!

Yes, Our Beloved Event Returns!



BLACK TIE
Dinner & Auction

MARCH 1, 2025

St. Francis Episcopal Church

ALTAR FLOWER SPONSORS for 2025

The Flower Sponsor sign up chart for 2025 is now in the Narthex. Sponsoring flowers is a lovely way to give thanks for something or to remember someone or some event. Each Sunday has two slots (for two arrangements.) We ask for a donation of \$75 per arrangement. To pay, you can use a donation envelope available in the Narthex racks or you can [click here](#) to pay on-line. (Please select "Altar Fund" in the drop-down menu.) If you pay online, please send Lynn Fallon an email (admin@stfrancisgreatfalls.org) with the sentiment you wish to have printed in the Sunday Bulletin.



... And if you are unable to get to church, you may choose a Sunday by emailing Jennifer Murphy. She will enter your name on the chart.



Nursery Attendant Assistant Needed

St. Francis currently has a wonderful nursery staffed by Rita Arteaga, a paid attendant with loads of childcare experience, and one volunteer. But we're running short of volunteers, and we'd like to find a second paid attendant to be in the Sunday nursery every week from about 9:45 to 11:30. If you know of someone, especially a nanny or someone else with childcare experience, who would be willing to work on Sunday mornings, please contact the church office admin@stfrancisgreatfalls.org. Anyone who is hired will need to complete 2 hours of online training (required by the Diocese) and will be paid for the training time.



Dark Horse Theatre presents "Art" by Yasmina Reza @ St. Francis in Millen Hall

SAT-1-FEB at 7:30 p.m.

Synopsis: Three Friends. €400,000. One White(?) Painting.

Cast: Tice Rust, Jack Reda, Scott D. Pafumi

Stage Manager: Katelyn Burton

Director: Natasha Parnian

Notes: 1998 Tony Winner for Best Play and 1996 Olivier Award for Best Comedy

For ages 16+: Contains adult language, existential crises, and dark humor.

To purchase tickets, please visit the Dark Horse Theatre box office: www.darkhorseva.com

More information to come, tomorrow.

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.

[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.

[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.

For further information contact Amelia Logan.

[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.