



St. Francis
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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

The Weekly Franciscan

Thursday, February 27, 2025

Ezo Sunday

The Last Sunday after the Epiphany

Sunday, March 2, 2025

You are welcome to the

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

10:00 a.m. Service of Holy Eucharist Rite II with
the Rev. Richard Jones, Celebrant and the Rev. E. Weston Mathews,
Deacon,
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 | [Exodus 34:29-35](#)

The Response | | Psalm 99:1,5-9

The Second Reading | [2 Corinthians 3:17-4:2](#)

The Gospel Reading | [Luke 9:28-36](#)

Parish Prayer List

We pray especially for Marlene, Betty, Dana, Luke, David, Barbara & Bill, Jeff Sr., Hugh Sr., Cathy, Lawrence, David, Jon, Jessica, Paula, Clara Sue, Grace, Debra, Taylor, Nick & Hilary, and Dut.

We pray for Mel Diaz & Lillian Moring as they prepare for Holy Matrimony.

We pray also for Franciscans who are currently preparing for Holy Baptism, Confirmation, Reception into The Episcopal Church, and Reaffirmation of Baptismal Vows.



Calling All Franciscans

* On Saturday, many Franciscans will gather to resurrect a long-standing Franciscan tradition in support of our Outreach mission when we gather for a fun-filled evening of fellowship and "bidding!"

* We will miss all who cannot be there, but we do encourage **all Franciscans** to be a part of the event by becoming a sponsor. Please [click here](#) to make your donation. (Sponsor dinner and auction from the drop-down menu.)

Outreach Beneficiaries

Hurricane Helene Victims in North Carolina

Half will support continuing recovery needs resulting from Hurricane Helene. Thousands are still struggling to find adequate housing, pay weekly bills and feed their families. The funds we raise will be distributed through the Episcopal Church of the Holy Family near Mills River where our own former assistant rector, Tracey Kelly, is Rector. Her parish has already managed the distribution of tens of thousands of dollars to support those in need as detailed in the recent letter she wrote to St. Francis family. The new funds we raise will help the Church of the Holy Family continue to support needy families in the area.

The Diocese of Ezo

The other half of the Outreach proceeds will go to the Episcopal Diocese of Ezo in South Sudan. South Sudan is the world's poorest country, with enormous needs for food, shelter, education, health care, and economic development. In Ezo, Bishop Isaac will use the money to feed internally displaced people seeking refuge from flooding and violence in nearby areas and to meet other critical needs.



Ezo Sunday is Coming, this Sunday

St. Francis Outreach Committee chair, Jack Mathias and Priest-in-Charge, Weston Mathews invite you to a special service celebrating our relationship with the Diocese of Ezo on **Sunday, March 2 at 8:00 a.m. & 10:00 a.m.**

At the 10:00 a.m. service we are glad to welcome the **AFRECS (American Friends of the Episcopal Church of the Sudans) Ambassador, Dane Smith** and the **Rev. Richard Jones of AFRECS and the Virginia Theological Seminary.** The Rev. Richard Jones will co-celebrate with our Priest-in-Charge Weston Mathews.

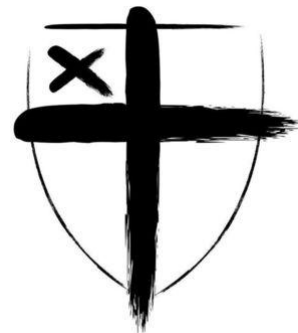
If you would like to learn more about Ezo or how you can support our ministry with them in South Sudan, please contact Jack Mathias at jackmathi@aol.com



**Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper on Tuesday,
March 4th
at 6:00 p.m. in Millen Hall**

Come and enjoy this special tradition before Lent begins.

**Ash Wednesday services will be offered at St.
Francis
on March 5th at 7:30 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. with St.
Francis Choir**





Second Sunday Contemplative Worship Series continues on Sunday, March 9th, at 6:30 p.m.

(a one-time change from the regular 5:00 p.m. start time)
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.



Special Lenten Guest Preacher

Riley K. Temple

Sunday, March 16 at 8:00 a.m. & 10:00 a.m. services

Riley K. Temple is a teacher and preacher on Art and Theology. He is the author of *Aunt Ester's Children Redeemed: Journeys to Freedom in August Wilson's Ten Plays of Twentieth-Century Black America* (Cascade, Eugene) 2017. He is currently exploring theologian Howard Thurman's Christian mysticism in contrast to the African mysticism that courses through August Wilson's cultural and theatrical landscape.

He practiced telecommunications law in Washington, DC for over 40 years, representing large telecommunications conglomerates and media companies, including the former Bell companies and their descendants. His public service included terms as communications

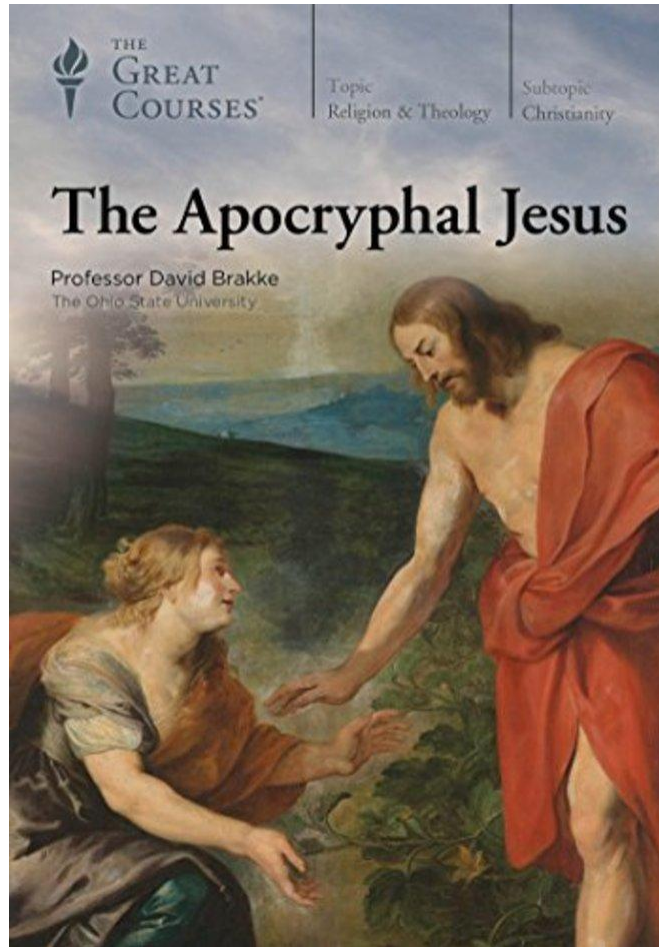
counsel to the US Senate Committee on Commerce, Science and Transportation.

He has served on several Boards, including a term as Senior Warden of the vestry at St. John's Lafayette Square. Currently he is a trustee of WETA, the Protestant Episcopal Cathedral Foundation, and the Campaign Legal Center. Prior Board service includes the National Archives Foundation, the Trust for the National Endowment for the Humanities, and the Protestant Episcopal Cathedral Foundation.

His honors and awards have included: The Mildred Claypoole Community Service Award; the Cultural Alliance of Greater Washington's Individual Arts Patron Award; inclusion in the Library of Congress' HistoryMakers African American Oral History Archive; from Lafayette College, the Joseph S. Bell Award for Distinguished Service, the Doctor of Laws degree Honoris Causa (2009), and the naming of the Riley K. Temple Art Gallery (2011). He is a proud co-founder with Tony Award winner Kenny Leon of the Kenny Leon's True Colors Theatre Company.

Temple holds the AB degree from Lafayette College (1971), the JD degree from Georgetown University (1974), and the Master of Theological Studies degree, cum laude from the Virginia Theological Seminary (2014).

Most recently, he is the curator of the African American Episcopal Historical Collection (AAEHC), a partnership of the Historical Society of the Episcopal Church and the Bishop Payne Library at the Virginia Theological Seminary. The AAEHC chronicles the history of Black Episcopalians.



**Sunday Evening Lenten Series on
"The Apocryphal Jesus"**

**March 16, 23, 30, & April 6*, Fellowship and Simple Supper begins at
6:00 p.m.;**

30-minute Great Courses film begins at 6:30 p.m.

***April 6 will meet at 11:30 a.m. after the 10:00 a.m. service.**

Gain a new perspective on early Christian life and history through non-canonical Christian literature, led by Dr. David Brakke of The Ohio State University. Sessions will include these topics:

- o Jesus and Mary in the Proto-Gospel of James,

- Young Jesus and the Infancy Gospel of Thomas,
- Sayings of Jesus from the Gospel of Thomas, and
- The Gospel of Judas's Gnostic Vision



Via Crucis Concert at St. Francis

Saturday, March 22nd, at 7:00 p.m.

Plan now to attend a very special Lenten concert that will feature our organist/pianist **Sasha Beresovsky**, and the St. Francis Choir and soloists under the direction of Larry Vote. The concert, a performance of the rarely heard **Via Crucis (Stations of the Cross)** by Franz Liszt, will take place on ***Saturday, March 22nd, 7 p.m. at St. Francis Episcopal Church, 9220***

Georgetown Pike, Great Falls, Virginia. The concert is free and open to the public.

Sasha Beresovsky, pianist and organist at St. Francis Episcopal Church, has appeared regularly at The Lyceum in Old Town Alexandria as part of the Summer Chamber Music Series of WMPA, presenting Beethoven's Diabelli Variations in 2015. Other performances have included solo recitals at the Victor Kosenko and Mikhail Bulgakov museums in Kyiv, the Rhodes Scholar House in Oxford, UK, the Arts Barn in Surry, ME, and Beethoven's Fourth Concerto with the Belmont Festival Orchestra.

Via Crucis is a set of musical meditations on the Stations of the Cross which prominently features the piano supported by choral and solo vocal movements with texts appropriate to the subject. The performance will be further enhanced by the showing of slides of paintings by Renaissance painters who visually interpreted each of the 14 Stations of the Cross. This presentation is an excellent opportunity to immerse oneself in an example of music that dramatizes the Passion of Jesus Christ.

Living with Grief



Living with Grief is a professionally-led bereavement group open to adults suffering the loss of a loved one(s).

2nd and 4th Tuesdays each month
10:30am - 12pm
starting March 25, 2025

St. Francis Episcopal Church
9220 Georgetown Pike
Great Falls, VA 22066
(Group will meet in the sanctuary)

ALL community members are welcome.
Free of charge.

For More Information
or to Register:

Contact Cate Riihimaki, LPC at
cate@graymattersva.com



RISE AGAINST HUNGER



Rise Against Hunger Family Event at St. Francis

Friday evening March 28, 2025

Please join your neighbors and their families to support a fun and meaningful Great Falls community event on **Friday, March 28**, 6:30-8:30 pm, to assemble **20,088** meals supporting [*Rise Against Hunger's Pathways to End Hunger*](#). These meals provide critical food to remote, last-mile communities within

hunger pockets designated "serious" or higher by the Global Hunger Index.

St Francis Episcopal Church is hosting this community-wide event in conjunction with **Rise Against Hunger**. School children can accumulate community service hours. We need **100 volunteers** to assemble these critical meals. Please join your neighbors and

REGISTER at the link below now.

<https://tinyurl.com/rahgf2025>

FURTHER INFORMATION

At Rise Against Hunger, It Starts With a Meal™, and it leads to resilience, self-sufficiency, education, empowerment, and bright futures in communities worldwide. Rise Against Hunger meals are served every day around the globe in medical clinics, vocational training programs, elder care facilities, and schools. Each meal is a moment to celebrate. <https://www.RiseAgainstHunger.org>



Creche Happenings

The cold weather has not allowed our little ones to go outside to run and play, so they have found other ways to get their wiggles out through music class movement class and acrobatics enrichment class.



THE COMMUNITY & ST. FRANCIS

DARK HORSE AND UTP PRESENT

Improv for The Ages!



Featuring:

(The) Unruly Theatre Project

Calamity

In a battle of wits and ages!

03.08.2025



TICKET PRICE

\$15.00

(\$20 at the door)

Show at 7:30, Doors at 7:00
St. Francis Episcopal Church
9220 VA-193, Great Falls, VA

FIND MORE INFORMATION AND TICKETS AT DARKHORSEVA.COM

[Click here for more information and tickets](#)

Amadeus  Concerts



St. Francis
EPISCOPAL CHURCH



**Washington Saxophone Quartet:
Sounds of the City
Sunday, March 9, 2025 at 4 PM,
followed by Reception in Millen Hall
St. Francis Episcopal Church, Great Falls**

If you've listened to National Public Radio's All Things Considered, you've heard the WSaxQ in the transition music. Now they have a chance to stretch out in a program that captures city energy and the search for peace. The unique timbre and blend of the WSaxQ have brought them from their hometown to worldwide acclaim.

[Click here to purchase tickets.](#)

ONGOING WEEKLY ACTIVITIES AT ST. FRANCIS

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.

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

Zoom ID: 998 1159 6134; Passcode: church

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

Reading and Discussing CS Lewis's "Mere Christianity", beginning this WED and the first assignment is the Preface, Ch 1 and Ch 2. Join us every WED morning: All are welcome.

Questions? Contact Stu Edwards 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 via Zoom on Thursdays at 5:00 p.m. Everyone is invited to join and participate in interesting discussions. Current study: "Blessed are you: The beatitudes of Jesus in scripture and in life"

<https://kerygma.com/collections/kerygma-resources/products/blessed-are-you>

For further information contact Amelia Logan at 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 if you would like to volunteer for this ministry or if you have any questions.

**Learn more about our
life at St. Francis**

through our



St. Francis
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

website 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

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

Ms. Shannon Kegley, Bookkeeper

Mr. Dominic Pelegrin, Sexton

Ms. Rita Arteaga, Nursery Attendant
Ms. Lynn Fallon, Parish Administrator

2025 Vestry Members

Lynda Davis, Senior Warden
Pepin Tuma, Junior Warden
Cathryn Lee, Register
Molly Reynolds, Treasurer
Kathy Anderson, Worship & Spiritual Care
Chris Giragosian, Mission & Mission Partnerships
Elizabeth Kim, Communications
Jessica Maxson, St. Francis Arts & Music
Larry Pratt, Stewardship & Fundraising
Steve Riihimaki, Family Ministries & Creche Board

Brice Eldridge, Facilities Manager
facilities@stfrancisgreatfalls.org