



ST. PAUL'S  
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

# Grace Notes

## October 27, 2024

[www.stpaulsrva.org](http://www.stpaulsrva.org)

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### TODAY @ ST. PAUL'S

**Nursery | 8:45 AM - 12:30 PM** | For children 3 - 5 years old. The worship service can be heard within the Nursery. A changing table is available.

**Children's Chapel** | Children 3 years and older are invited to participate in Children's Chapel. We'll leave following the Gospel reading and return at the Passing of the Peace to take Communion with our families.

**Family Breakfast | Today @ 9am | Scott Hall** | Join us for a festive and delicious family breakfast this Sunday! Enjoy this time with friends old and new. Everyone is welcome.

**Rector's Bible Study | Today @ 9 am | Norwood Room** | Join our clergy and volunteers as we explore the readings for Sunday worship. This informal setting offers the opportunity to ask questions, get to know others, and learn how to navigate the often- tricky and mysterious world of scripture. No prep work required.

**Newcomers Brunch | Today @ 11:30am | Norwood Room** | A few times a year, the rector and members of our welcome team host a brunch especially for those who are new to St. Paul's. And the definition of "new" is completely up to you! If you've recently joined St. Paul's or have visited but have not yet decided whether this will become your church home, please join us to explore who we are as a congregation and community. This is a wonderful opportunity to meet our clergy and staff and to get to know others who are discovering St. Paul's. Questions? See Bo Cresswell this morning.

**2024 Annual Giving Campaign | Through Nov 3 | Committed to Caring** | St. Paul's 2024 Annual Giving Campaign began October 6th. If you haven't received a pledge card yet, contact Aliessa Hart, Director of Finance, ([ahart@stpaulsrva.org](mailto:ahart@stpaulsrva.org)).

**New Hearing Assistance Units Now Available on Sunday Mornings** | Hearing assistance is now available for free during church services. You can choose between an earpiece to amplify sound or if you have a T-Coil switch on your hearing aids, you can use a neck loop to send the signal directly to your hearing aids! Please ask an usher for assistance and the special receiver you will need to use.

**Reminder About Receiving Communion** | All are invited to the altar rail to receive the sacraments (bread and wine) or a blessing. Bread will be placed in your hand by the priest. If you choose to receive the wine, the preferred (and most sanitary) way is by drinking from the common cup, guiding it by the base to your lips. While our preference is to keep fingers OUT of the chalice, if you plan to intinct, please use hand sanitizer before coming to the altar rail, located in the church.

### UPDATES and HIGHLIGHTS

**Evening Prayer** | Join us on Facebook Live Tuesdays and Thursdays at 6 p.m. for Evening Prayer.

**Hurricane Relief Opportunity to Donate** | We've all seen the devastating images of what Hurricane Helene and Milton left in their wake. Many of us have family and friends who are impacted by these horrific storms. We all need to help. There is a link on the St. Paul's website ([stpaulsrva.org](http://stpaulsrva.org)) through which you may offer your contributions. Thank you for your kindness.

**Early Voting Deadline** | The last day to early vote in Virginia is November 2. Join many who have already faithfully cast their ballots. Consider voting now.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**Vestry Nominations** | The Vestry Nominating Committee is now receiving suggested names for the 2025 Vestry Slate. The VNC will offer a slate of 4 names for election at our Annual Meeting in February. Suggested names are being received through November 3rd in the box in Gathering Space or by email to [brianlcarr1026@gmail.com](mailto:brianlcarr1026@gmail.com). The VNC consists of the following nine members: David Hoover, Nancy Burns, Sue Davis, Shannon Sinclair, Chris West, Stephanie Hill Blackwood, Tom Smith, Randy Blankenship, and Brian Carr.

**Interfaith Prayer Services for the Election | Monday, October 28th, Monday, November 4th, and Tuesday, November 5th @ 12:00 PM to 12:15 PM in St. Paul's Sanctuary** | As we prepare for the election, St. Paul's is hosting an interservice service to pray for God's presence and guidance and to pray for God's peace and protection for our nation during this anxious and uncertain time. Join us as we pray together for our nation, the Commonwealth, and the City of Richmond.

**Soles to the Polls, Sunday, October 27, 12:45 p.m. @ front steps of St. Paul's on Grace Street** | The Richmond City polls (including Hickory Hill Community Center and West Laburnum Avenue locations as well as City Hall) will open for early voting on Sunday, October 27th between 1 p.m. and 5 p.m. Virginia Interfaith Center for Public Policy (VICPP) is bringing together area congregations to gather at City Hall (as well as at Hickory Hill and Laburnum sites) for a voting festival that will include refreshments, entertainment, and messages from local leaders. Gather on the front steps of St Pauls at 12:45 p.m. to process to City Hall at 1 p.m.

**St. Paul's RISC Meeting on Sunday, October 27 @ 11:30 AM - 12:30 PM in Scott Hall** | It's time to regroup and plan for the March 25, 2025 Nehemiah Action Meeting! You were very helpful last year in getting 64 church members and friends out to St. Paul's Baptist where over 1700 people attended. Come hear updates about the community problems identified for action in 2025 and provide feedback. Turn your faith into local social justice action for the Richmond community with 24 other local congregations. Justice demands RISC! Light snacks will be provided by your RISC team. For more information and to RSVP, please contact Dr. Michelle Whitehurst-Cook [whitehurstcookmichelle@gmail.com](mailto:whitehurstcookmichelle@gmail.com).

**Book Discussion: A Faith of Many Rooms by Debie Thomas | 5:30-7:00 p.m. Wednesday, October 30th and Wednesday, November 6th** | What if the faith we inhabit is roomier than we thought? In this work of sprawling spiritual and literary imagination, author Debie Thomas claims that wherever God dwells, there is expansiveness and belonging. Thomas takes readers on a deeply personal and profoundly theological odyssey. Join us for discussions on Chapters 1-5 on October 30th and Chapters 6-10 on November 6th; led by Rev. Charlie Dupree and Rev. Andie Rohrs. Bring a brown bag dinner, if you choose. Books can be purchased through the author's website at [debiethomas.com](http://debiethomas.com). For more information, contact Bo Cresswell ([bcresswell@stpaulsrgva.org](mailto:bcresswell@stpaulsrgva.org))

**All Saints' Sunday | November 3 | We sing a song of the saints of God** | All Saints' Sunday is the day that we remember the great fellowship of the saints; those persons whom we love, but see no longer. It is the tradition of the church to name them during our Eucharist on All Saints' Sunday. To have a name included and read during the Sunday Eucharist on All Saints' Sunday, please list those names on the clipboards located in the church and Gathering Space. You may also contact Carter Johann to add names to the list by calling the church.

**Holy Baptism on All Saints' Day | Sunday, November 3 @ 10am** Please let us know if you would like to have an infant or child (younger than 12 years old) baptized on the Feast of All Saints'. Through the sacrament of Holy Baptism, we are adopted as God's beloved children, ritually initiated and welcomed into the community of the Church. Learn more about what is involved with baptism at St. Paul's here. Contact the Rev. Andie Rohrs, Associate for Pastoral Care ([arohrs@stpaulsrgva.org](mailto:arohrs@stpaulsrgva.org)) for more information about being baptized on All Saints' Day.

**Worship Practice Pop Up | Sunday, November 3 @ 11:30 am** When do we stand? When do we kneel? When do we make the sign of the Cross? What do these actions mean, and when, and why, do we do them? Join Charlie in these short, micro workshops as we explore the movements involved in our faith and some of the basics of our worship service. All you need is your own spiritual curiosity and a desire for your worship experience to be more meaningful.

**Sunday Adult Forum | Church Liturgical Calendar: Rhythms and Seasons in the Body of Christ | November 3rd @ 11:30 am - 12:15 pm in Scott Hall** | Everyone keeps a calendar to schedule our busy lives throughout the year. As Christians, we, too, have a calendar, a sacred and holy order of distinct liturgical seasons like Advent, Lent, and Pentecost signified by different colors, hymns, rituals, and prayers in our shared worship and activities. This ancient rhythm keeps time to help us remember our place and identity as followers of Jesus in the story of God's salvation. As we come to the end of another Church year and begin anew with Advent, come learn more about the theological significance of the Church's rhythms and seasons with Rev. Gwynn in this Sunday forum to deepen your faith and spiritual practices.

**Choral Evensong for the Feast of All Souls' Day | Sunday, November 3rd at 4:00 pm** | Join us for a service of Choral Evensong, celebrating the Feast of All Souls' Day on Sunday, November 3rd at 4:00 pm. The St. Paul's Choir will present works by Robert Lehman, Jessica French, William H. Harris, and John Tavener. Following the service will be a festive reception in the Gathering Space, child-care will also be provided. All are welcome, come support the wonderful choir and music ministry of St. Paul's.

**Reading Ahead!** | If you would like to know Sunday's readings in advance, you can visit [lectionarypage.net](http://lectionarypage.net). Once you are at The Lectionary Page website, simply choose the month and date for this Sunday. For September through November, St. Paul's is using the readings in Track 1. These readings are also the subject of the Wednesday Brown Bag Bible Study and our Sunday morning Rector's Bible Study.

**Emmaus Item Spotlight** | People want to stay warm. We are currently in need of coats, shoes and specifically men's clothing. Donate new or gently used items by dropping them off at the church office. Thank you for your support.

**Brown Bag Bible Study | Wednesdays | 12 - 1 p.m.** | Are you interested in a weekly study of the Sunday Bible readings, led by a member of the clergy? During this lunchtime gathering we will share and reflect on the readings for the upcoming Sunday. How do these passages speak to us in our daily lives?

How do they inform our prayers and our relationships? Our study will be informed by some references to commentary and/or historical Biblical context, but this is primarily an opportunity for conversation. For more information or a Zoom link please contact Bo Cresswell [bcresswell@stpaulsrva.org](mailto:bcresswell@stpaulsrva.org).

**Online Wednesday Morning Reflections | Wednesdays at 10 am -10:30 am (Zoom)** | Consider a time of quiet in your week. On Wednesday at 10:00 a.m. members of St Paul's gather on Zoom for quiet reflection. The format consists of reading one of the upcoming Sunday's readings and twenty minutes of silent meditation. Participants are invited to comment on the reading or the silence. Contact David Hoover ([davidwhoover56@gmail.com](mailto:davidwhoover56@gmail.com)) for more information.

## CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILIES

**Family Group | First and Third Sundays | 9:00 - 9:50 AM in Room 206** | The Family Group has returned. Pre-Covid, this group met for support, and fellowship that included book discussions, and conversation around topics of concern to families. No two families are alike, and all are welcome. Please join us for spiritual conversation, book discussions, and fellowship with other families. Drop off your children and youth, grab a cup of coffee and head upstairs to room 206.

**Children's Sunday School | 9 am | Room 112 | First and Third Sundays**

**Youth Faith Formation | 9 am | Room 110 | First and Third Sundays** | Jabriel Hasan, our Youth Coordinator, has something special planned for our youth!

**Family Worship Space** | St. Paul's is committed to creating an inclusive worship experience for every child. Families are invited to join their young children at the Family worship space in the front of the sanctuary. This carpeted area with pillows and games allows our youngest members to fully participate in the service. Our ushers will be happy to direct you.

**Newsletter** | Stay updated on all of St. Paul's offerings for our children, youth and families! Please contact Linda Willis ([lwillis@stpaulsrva.org](mailto:lwillis@stpaulsrva.org)) to receive the Family Newsletter directly to your inbox.

## PRAYERS OF THE PARISH

As always, you may submit prayer requests to be included in both the Prayers of the Parish as well as for the Sunday Prayers of the People by contacting Carter Johann at 804-643-3589. Please provide any feedback, questions or concerns to the Rev. Gwynn Crichton (gcrichon@stpaulsra.org).

### **We give thanks to God...**

**...as we celebrate the season after Pentecost** where the Holy Spirit continues to pour upon the Church as we make God's loving and reconciling presence known to all.

**...for the generosity of all who have made a pledge to support St. Paul's 2024 Annual Giving Campaign** "Committed to Caring" to generously support our vibrant ministries and mission to proclaim Christ to the heart of the city.

### **We pray for God's mercy...**

**...for the Universal Church**, especially for all of our newcomers; the ministry of the Baptized; Presiding Bishop-Elect Sean, Presiding Bishop Michael, Virginia bishops Mark and Gayle, all bishops, priests, and deacons; La Iglesia Cristo Rey and La Iglesia San Jose (Arlington), St. Mary's (Berryville), St. Peter's (New Kent), according to the Diocese of Virginia cycle of prayer; The Scottish Episcopal Church, according to the Anglican Cycle of Prayer.

**...for the nation**, during this election season, that we may be a people at peace among ourselves and that all may rely on your strength and accept responsibilities for our fellow citizens, voting faithfully to elect trustworthy leaders and making wise decisions for the welfare of the common good; all recovering from recent hurricanes.

**...for the world**, especially the ceasing of violence and warfare in the Middle East, Ukraine, Sudan, DRC, and other war-torn regions; all refugees, immigrants, and asylum-seekers; the Diocese of Central Tanganyika and the village of Mwitikira, Tanzania; slowing of deforestation and increased conservation of forest areas throughout the world.

**...for Metropolitan Richmond**, especially public, non-profit, and religious social service organizations and ministries in the city, including emergency shelters, women's shelters, clinics, feeding programs (including Emmaus and other Downtown Community Ministries' weekly lunch programs), recreation programs, youth programs, juvenile counseling, and young people's shelters.

**...for those who are sick in body, mind and spirit and all for whom prayer has been requested**, especially May Lythgoe and Elizabeth Wilkerson, friends of Denise Williams; Sarah Coxon; Charlotte Tyndall, mother of Lynn Kotrady; Cynthia Henebry, daughter of James Stutts & friend of Ed Dickson; Mary Kay Aly-Youseff; William G.; James Russel McWilliams, nephew of Suzanne McWilliams; Andrea Dobson, niece of Anne Dobson & Tim Baird; Alex; Fran Bolin, friend of Jane Nelson; Kristen Gibson, sister of Michele Stehle; Susan Dyke, cousin of David Romaine; Bob Hafford, brother of Kathryn Hafford; Maxton Williams, great nephew of Barbara Cochrane; Roberto Mercado, uncle of Lydia Mercado; Hank Hobbs; Ron Romaine, David Romaine's brother; Jim Pullman, friend of David Romaine; Mary Ramsey, friend of Celia Luxmoore; Georgia Jonkman, mother of Crystal Jonkman; Susan, friend of Lindy Wright; Jimmy Yeargan, Ginny Campbell's nephew; Ruth Lokey, Beth O'Leary's mother.

**...for eternal peace of the departed**, especially Kent Titus; Rex Britton, friend of David Romaine; those who have died due to warfare, violence, disaster, or disease; those whom we love but see no longer.