

November 1, 2024

Rev. Deacon Becki Casey

November Schedule

November 3, 2024 - Morning Prayer
All Saint's Celebration

November 10, 2024 - Holy Eucharist

November 17, 2024 - Morning Prayer

November 24, 2024 - Holy Eucharist
Bishop's Visit

Readings for November 3, 2024

Wisdom 3:1-9

Psalm 24

Revelation 21:1-6a

John 11:32-44

Lay Servers - November 1, 2024

Vestry Person.....Beppy White
Usher.....Dona Hutchinson
Acolyte.....Karen Czar
Lector..... Briarley Rogers
Intercessor.....Jaynie Jackson
LEM.....Morning Prayer
Altar Care.....Kay John/Sharon Hicks
Fellowship.....POTLUCK

WEEKLY at PIEDMONT CHURCH

Tuesday

7:30 a.m. Men's Bible Study in the Sun room

Wednesday

4 p.m. Bible Study with Norris John

5:30 p.m. Potluck Dinner

6:30 p.m. Choir Practice - Brad Jackson

Friday

9:00 a.m. Morning Prayer with Bill Birkhofer

Sermons and Newsletters

If you missed church on Sunday and are curious about the sermon or if you lost the newsletter in your junk mail folder, both items are available on the website. You can find us online at

<http://www.piedmontepiscopalchurch.org>

Sermons are listed under the "Worship" tab or click [here](#). Newsletters are listed under the "News" tab or click [here](#).

Fall Back

Saturday marks the END of daylight savings time. Which means Sunday is an invitation to sleep in and still make it to church! We are so excited to celebrate All Saints Sunday with you. If you forget to set your clock back, and end up at church an hour early, the unseen saints would love the extra fellowship time with you. But the visible congregational members are encouraged to enjoy the extra slumber before worship begins on the 3rd.

The Investiture of Presiding Bishop-elect Sean Rowe

Nov. 2, 2024

In this historic and joyful season, we invite you to pray for guidance for our church and our new presiding bishop as he leads us in envisioning the reign of God in our midst. May our celebration unite us as a sacramental community, and may we be filled with new energy to bear witness to God's work of redemption.

When: November 2nd at 11:00 am

Where: The service will be live streamed on this page: <https://www.episcopalchurch.org/investiture/> and on the Episcopal Church's Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/episcopalian>



Prayer List

We offer prayers for those who are dealing with health issues and other ongoing needs: Malcolm (**Mac**) Barber, **Bernadette** Blanding, **Caitlin** Bomar, **David** Cronk, **Janice** Edwards, **Joanie** Edwards, **Vera** Griffin, **Brad and Lydia** Hanson, **Ginger** Hawkins, **Zoe** Hubbard, **Shelby Jean** Hull, **Kim, Marilyn** Myers, **Carolyn** O'Brien, **Chris** Palumbo, **Robert, Pat** Roberts, **Ann** Skidmore, **Sarah, Carolyn** Stanley and **Joe** Stanley and **Robert** Ulrich

***If you wish to add or remove someone from the Parish Prayer list please send an email to Rev. Deacon Becki Casey @ beckisafeinhishands@gmail.com by Wednesday to ensure that it gets into the bulletin and weekly messenger**

Cycle of Prayer

Please join us in praying for our larger Church communities. This week in the Anglican Cycle of Prayer, we lift up Church of the Province of

South East Asia. In our Diocesan Cycle of Prayer, we remember Clergy and Lay Delegates and Alternates to Annual Convention and members of all Diocesan Committees.

All Saints and All Souls Evening Service

The transition from October into November contains a host of celebrations in quick succession. It's the time of year when the veil separating the visible world from the unseen is said to thin, making us all more aware of the life that exists beyond this one. Reformation Day and All Hallow's Eve are on October 31st. All Saints' Day is November 1st. And All Souls Day is November 2nd. Because it is such an important holiday, our church will be celebrating All Saints' Day together on Sunday.

However, on Friday night, November 1st, we will have a special evening service at 5pm. Together we will learn about and celebrate the communion of saints who run this race alongside us. Rev Becki will offer some of the church's teaching about these feast days. Kendall Tata will be presenting family history to help us recall the saints who helped build the ministry of Grace Episcopal Church. Corporately we will worship, pray, light candles, and meditate on the mystery of our eternal ministry in Christ. Please join us!

A Week of Prayer for the 2024 Election October 30 - November 5

The Community of Deacons in the Diocese of Virginia invites its congregations and members to A Week of Prayer for the 2024 Election Season. Congregations and Individuals can sign up to participate in this vigil by praying individually or in community. [Learn more and sign up to pray.](#)

Praying Together on Election Day

Our national presidential election is one month away. As the time draws near, our country risks the harm caused by increased fear and division. But the love of Jesus and the protection of God is nonpartisan. The greatest tool to remind us of God's presence, to push back our worries, and to join our hearts together regardless of our political differences, is prayer. On November 5th, the church sanctuary will be open from 3-7pm. The Rev. Becki will be available to lead prayers or host others in silence. Please come pray with us! If you would like to host a portion of this prayer time, please let Becki know.

Election Night Virtual Prayers

On the night of the election, from 8-10 pm, the diocese is hosting an

online prayer session. It will be hosted by newly ordained Bishop Elect Sean Rowe, and he will offer an opening reflection, and then others will lead a variety of prayers and time of silent reflection. Registration is available free online at this [link](#).

"MINISTER'S MUSINGS"

Jesus' Tears

This Sunday's gospel reading comes from John 11:32-44, the story of Jesus raising Lazarus from the grave. On All Saints Sunday, we celebrate the lives of those we love and see no more because we know they are with us even when our human eyes block them from view. It is a comfort to recall that those in our communion of saints and souls surround us and pray with us. But for those who have felt the loss of a loved one, that comfort holds hands with our grief. The two are inseparable.

Ambivalence, the experience of feeling conflicting emotions simultaneously, can be exhausting. It's a relief to know Jesus, the incarnate God, experienced this complex part of being a human person too. Because Jesus felt the pain of grief, we can find comfort in his solidarity with our humanity.

When this passage speaks of Jesus weeping, it uses a Hebrew word specific to physical tears. It isn't noting the sound of his cries, but the wet drops coming from his eyes. Did you know that there are different types of tears? Each type has a different biological composition, containing different hormones and proteins. Emotional tears, the kind produced in response to strong emotion, contain the highest levels of neurotransmitters and toxins. Tears are the way our bodies cleanse themselves from the poisons that accumulate inside us from stressful and painful experiences.

Jesus could have handled this situation with Lazarus in a number of different ways which would have precluded his own pain, but he didn't. When he arrived to find his friends grieving, he didn't push away their grief or avoid his own. Instead, "he was greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved." Jesus' body entered into the human experience of grief. His intellect knew he would raise Lazarus, he even understood the reality of Lazarus' life beyond the grave. And yet, Jesus' human self both felt and expressed the pain of loss.

The feast of All Saints is a joyful celebration! And... if we also feel the grief of loss, hot tears, and heavy hearts, we are in good company. Jesus and our beloved communion of saints join us in experiencing the complex stew of the human heart. Thanks be to God for his attention to BOTH our joys and our sorrows! And thanks be to God that one day all our tears will be forever wiped away.

-Rev. Becki

Collect: Listen kindly to our prayers, O Lord, and, as our faith in your Son, raised from the dead, is deepened, so may our hope of resurrection for your

departed servants also find new strength. *Amen*

Celebration of Stewardship

The vestry and Rev. Becki would like to extend their appreciation for everyone who has contributed to our Stewardship campaign by returning pledge cards! We are grateful for God's blessings and faithfulness to our community and equally grateful for a community of people dedicated to faithfully participating in God's work through Piedmont Church. Over the next few weeks, the vestry will be doing the work of planning the 2025 budget. Please be in prayer for wisdom with decision making. And, if you have not yet turned in your pledge card, it is not too late!

Piedmont CASA Volunteers Needed

Piedmont CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates) is looking for volunteers. This is a tremendously important ministry for those who wish to participate in the lives of our most vulnerable children. They have scheduled spring training dates from February 3rd through March 10th, Tuesday and Thursday mornings from 9:30-12:30. [More information can be found here.](#) Please prayerfully consider participating in the work of the Kingdom in this way. The Rev. Becki is considering attending and would love to talk with anyone interested in joining her.

Vestry Meeting - OUTREACH PROGRAMS

Our vestry will meet in November to begin discussions regarding our 2025 budget. One area of discussion will be the distributions of funds to local outreach programs. MESA, Boys and Girls Club, Madison Literacy Council, Madison Day and Taste of the Mountain Festival are some of the local programs we offer financial support to. If there is anyone that would like to offer any suggestions for programs or organizations that might be in need of assistance, please contact Rev. Becki or vestry members.



Senior Lunch with the Methodists

Madison United Methodist Church is hosting a community wide, senior brunch on November 7th from 10:30am to 1pm. The meal is free of charge. Come meet our neighbors, enjoying food, and fellowship together!

Diocesan Convention

The annual Convention for The Diocese of Virginia will be held in Fredericksburg November 7-9. This is a time for clergy and lay church members to gather in prayer, discernment, and decision making for the future of the diocese. Please be in prayer for those in attendance! We look forward to sharing what we learn with you upon our return.

Thanksgiving Service

We Gather Together to Ask the Lord's Blessing

Mark your calendars! Piedmont Episcopal Church will be hosting an interreligious Thanksgiving worship service on behalf of the Madison County Ministerial Association on Wednesday the 27th at 5pm. Please consider joining us as we follow the example of Jesus who crossed religious and social boundaries to heal our divisions.

Advent Plan

As the holiday season approaches, busyness can threaten to steal our joy and peace in remembering the purpose of Advent. In an effort to reflect and recenter, please consider joining us for a brief pause from the frenetic festivities. This year we will be offering a morning Advent Retreat on December 14th from 9-12:30 at Grave's Chapel. Together we will enjoy prayer, meditation, and reconnection with God and one another. Please consider marking your calendars now, and holding this time apart, as we prepare for the coming of our Lord.

Upcoming Dates

As we inch our way into holiday season, please be looking ahead with us.

There are some exciting events coming up that you won't want to miss. Some are for attending. Some are for noting and marking with prayer support.

November 1: All Saints/All Souls 5pm service at Grace

November 2: Bishop Rowe's investiture (be watching for a zoom link)

November 5: Election Day (please vote and then pray at the church or online)

November 7-9: The Diocese of Virginia's Annual Convention (please be praying for our church's leadership)

November 24: Bishop Ted Gulick's visit to Piedmont

November 27: Interreligious Thanksgiving Service at Piedmont at 5pm

December 3: Wandering into Advent beginning at Piedmont from 5:30-8pm

December 14: Morning Advent Retreat at Grave's Chapel

Little Women

If you are looking for a fun evening this Holiday season, consider showing support for our own Jonathan Hawkins by attending the Stageworks production of Little Women, by Louisa May Alcott, Adapted by Thomas Hichak. It will be held on December 20th at 7pm at the State Theater Building at 303 S. Main St, Culpeper.

Second Annual Coat Collection

We will be collecting new and gently used coats between Nov 1st and Nov 25th. You can drop off coats on the carport, at Piedmont Episcopal Church parish house, right next to the church. 214 Church St. Madison, VA. Please call Karen at 908-337-9754 to let her know when you drop off or if she needs to pick up coats.

Sponsored by churches in Madison County.

MESA

Madison Emergency Services Association

Saturday DECEMBER 7, 2024

10 am - 12 noon

927 Orange Road

Madison, VA 22727

There will be FREE Coats of all sizes for all ages!



Grief Support Group

No one should have to grieve alone.

Piedmont Episcopal Church together with Gentiva Hospice is offering a bereavement support group that will provide spiritual and faith-based gatherings designed to accompany each person in their unique walk with grief. Bereavement is not only the loss of one's beloved, but can be the loss of your way or direction as well. Madeleine L'engle in talking about her own experience says, "Bereavement is not the truncation of...love, but one of its regular phases."

Join us as we learn to walk this new and difficult path together.

**Piedmont Episcopal Church, 214 Church Street
Madison, Virginia
First Tuesday of each month at 6 pm**

November 5, 2024

Place: Piedmont Fellowship House, next door to the church, living room, enter through the kitchen door in the carport

**Grace Episcopal Church, 97 Main St.
Stanardsville, VA 22973
Third Tuesday of each month at 6 pm**

November 19, 2024

**For more information, please contact:
Rev. Kathryn Thomas, kathrynhthomas@gmail.com
Sharon Hicks, sharonsarbonne@aol.com
Pastor Stephen Mathis, sjwmathis89@gmail.com**

Looking for a Way to Help?
Donations to Episcopal Relief & Development
can be made online at <https://support.episcopalrelief.org/>
Checks payable to ERD may be mailed to
P.O. Box 3006, Harlan, IOWA 51593-0024.



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