

May 22, 2025



Piedmont Episcopal Church

**214 Church Street
Madison, Va 22727**

**The Rev. Becki Casey
Priest-in-Charge**

**May 25, 2025 - 11 a.m. Worship
Service**

Wherever you are on your spiritual
journey, you
can find a home here.
Our doors and hearts are wide open!

Readings for May 25, 2025

Acts 16:9-15
Revelation 21:10, 22-23:5
John 5:1-9
Psalm 67

Lay Servers - May 25, 2025

Vestry Person.....Molly Sanford
Usher.....Kay John
Acolyte.....Molly Sanford
Children's Church.....Sharon Hicks
Lector.....Susan Bagby
Intercessor.....Rev. Becki
LEM.....Karen Czar
Altar Care.....Kay John/Sharon Hicks
Fellowship.....Beppy White

WEEKLY at PIEDMONT CHURCH

Tuesday

7:30 a.m. Men's Bible Study with Rev. Brad Jackson

Wednesday

4 p.m. Bible Study with Norris John

5:30 p.m. Potluck Fellowship Dinner

6:30 p.m. Choir Practice with Rev. Brad Jackson (**Resumes 6/4**)

Friday

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

9:45 a.m. Understanding the Bible - Rev. Becki



Prayer List

We offer prayers for those who are dealing with health issues and other ongoing needs: **Mac Barber, Bernadette Blanding, Sharon Carter, Mike Cashman, David Cronk, Janice Edwards, Joanie Edwards, Jill F., Alfred Goossens, Vera Griffin, Brad and Lydia Hansen, Ginger Hawkins, Zoe Hubbard, Shelby Jean Hull, Kim, Ryan Mahanes, Hannah Moyer, Mary Moyer, Carol Nowak, Carolyn O'Brien, Robert, Michael Rider, Pat Roberts, Steve Sanford, Ann Skidmore, Sarah, Carolyn Stanley, Joe Stanley, Kathryn Thomas, Robert Ulrich and Sylvia Vior.**

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

Please join us in praying for our larger Church communities. This week in the Anglican Cycle of Prayer we pray for The Anglican Church of Kenya. In our Diocesan Cycle of Prayer, we pray for St All Christian Formation leaders and all seekers.

Rogation Day Prayer

Almighty God, Lord of heaven and earth: We humbly pray that thy gracious providence may give and preserve to our use the harvests of the land and of the seas, and may prosper all who labor to gather them, that we, who constantly receive good things from thy hand, may always give thee thanks; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Memorial Day Prayer

O Judge of the nations, we remember before you with grateful hearts the men and women of our country who in the day of decision ventured much for the liberties we now enjoy. Grant that we may not rest until all the people of this land share the benefits of true freedom and gladly accept its disciplines. This we ask in the Name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Minister's Musings

Saint Helena's Holy Sites

May 22nd is the feast day of Saint Helena of Constantinople. Helena was the mother of Emperor Constantine, the ruler who legalized Christianity after many years of persecution directed against Christians in the Roman world. Helena converted to Christianity, some believe because of his faith, and then dedicated her life in service to the poor and infirm.

Later in her life, in 326, she took a pilgrimage to the Holy Land. While traveling, she initiated the reclamation of several Christian holy sites like the Mount of Olives and the site of Jesus' crucifixion. Several sites had to have pagan temples removed first and then she had basilicas erected in their place. One of the most significant acts of her life was during her travels when she is said to have found the cross and the nails of Jesus' crucifixion. Their authenticity was verified when contact with them was shown to have miraculous healing power. Her legacy persists to this day as the holy sites remain centers of Christian worship and the relics she found remain housed in the Roman Basilica of the Holy Cross in Jerusalem.

Helena was given the title "Protector of the Holy Places" because of the way she hunted them down and venerated them in perpetuity. I happen to love

visiting and praying in ancient holy sites. There is something powerful about spaces bathed in the prayers of centuries of worshipers! I also think it is important to remind ourselves daily that God is not confined to temples erected by human hands. In fact, we ourselves are temples of God and God's Spirit dwells within US! To honor Helena's legacy in today's world, we can make it our quest to track down the people in whom God's Spirit seems evident and celebrate that. Additionally, we can remind one another, when we witness flagging strength or depressed spirits, that we are indeed temples of the Most High God. Our participation in the work of God can join Helena's labors by protecting the holy places in the hearts and lives of the people of God so that together WE can be the Church of God.

-Rev. Becki

Collect: Most Merciful God, who blessed your servant Helena with such grace and devotion to you that she venerated the very footsteps of our Savior; Grant unto us the same grace that, aided by her prayers and example, we also may always behold your glory in the cross of your Son. Through the same Jesus Christ our Lord; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Letter From the Deacon

Dear sisters and brothers in Christ in both parishes,

It is with great sadness, but also with joy and excitement that I share with you how God and our Saviour are moving in my life and, truly, all of ours.

God is calling me to leave both Grace and Piedmont, and Bishop Stevenson has given me permission to take an undefined amount of time to rest, discern, study and seek God's will for me and to reach, eventually, a calling about a new placement.

I have been at Piedmont since 2012, and Grace essentially since the early 90's, plus it is my sending parish for ordination. At Piedmont, I have been without a priest three times, and the only clergy. It is time, God's Time.

Discernment is a quiet seeking as did Elijah in the cave, and that is what this time will give me. A time in the wilderness.

I leave with so many thanks to God for my time in both places, for the gifts that you all have shared with me and the comfort and fellowship through some very hard times together.

Thanks for sharing God's journey with me; we have been fellow pilgrims in God's Kingdom, and for that I give God thanks and Praise.

Please hold me in prayer as you all have done over the years.

In His Service,
Deacon Kathryn

Celebrating Kathryn!

On Sunday, June 1st, we will be celebrating Kathryn and sending her off with a special liturgy in our morning service. Please join us and help shower her with love as we gather to pray and entrust her season of rest and discernment into the Lord's hands.

Loaves and Fishes

Well, it's that time again!! Piedmont is scheduled to deliver nutrition packages to the Boys and Girls Club of Madison, as part of our cooperative ministry with Hebron Lutheran Church and Madison Presbyterian Church, on Friday, May 30. Just a reminder, please bring any food items that you have signed up to bring this Sunday, May 25, if you have not already done so. We will be packing the nutritional packages following this Sunday's worship service.



A huge thank you to Bill Birkhofer for initiating and working to bring the Loaves and Fishes ministry to Piedmont Church. Your devotion, time and dedication to providing food for those in need, especially the local children in our community, is most appreciated. And thank you to The Cotten Family who will be taking over the responsibilities of Loaves and Fishes, in the coming months. We will continue to support this ministry with joyful hands and hearts. Thank you to all that donate food and support the nutritional needs for Madison children.

Worship Leader Training

If you would like to begin or continue with Sunday Worship participation in the role of:

Usher
Acolyte
LEM
Lector
Intercessor

Please join us for a training on Saturday, May 24th and 10AM in the Piedmont Sanctuary for an hour training. Those desiring to participate as LEMs (Lay Eucharistic Ministers) will stay for an additional hour. You will receive a document via email that will cover the details of the roles pertaining to your specific area of interest. When we gather on Saturday, we will discuss those roles, run through specific details, answer questions, and pray over these valuable ministries. Becki will be blessing you and commissioning you to serve. If you have any questions or if you have not already let Becki know that you would like to participate, please let her know as soon as possible.



Thank you to all that donate to **MESA**. The needs are great in our community and these needs change almost weekly! All donations are greatly appreciated.

MESA's Top Items Needed this Week

Paper towels and toilet paper
Kids Cereal
All baking items (sugar, oil, salt)
Eggs
Canned meat
All Condiments
Canned fruit

Piedmont Episcopal Church | 214 Church Street | Madison, VA 22727 US

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