

**May 29, 2025**



## **Piedmont Episcopal Church**

**214 Church Street  
Madison, Va 22727**

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

**June 1, 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 June 1, 2025**

Acts 16:16-34

Revelation 22:12-14, 16-17, 20-21

John 17:20-26

Psalm 97

### **Lay Servers - June 1, 2025**

<b>Vestry Person.....</b>	<b>Beppy White</b>
<b>Usher.....</b>	<b>Dona Hutchinson</b>
<b>Acolyte.....</b>	<b>Karen Czar</b>
<b>Children's Church.....</b>	<b>Susan Bagby</b>
<b>Lector.....</b>	<b>Norris John</b>
<b>Intercessor.....</b>	<b>Rev. Becki</b>
<b>LEM.....</b>	<b>Sharon Hicks</b>
<b>Altar Care.....</b>	<b>Dona Hutchinson</b>
<b>Fellowship.....</b>	<b>Katie Puryear</b>

# 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](mailto: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 Korea. In our Diocesan Cycle of Prayer, we pray for St. David's in Ashburn and Ware in Gloucester.

## Minister's Musings

### Ascension Day

This Thursday, May 29th, is the Feast of the Ascension. It is one of the most important days on the Christian calendar and considered a day of obligatory observance in Roman Catholic circles. This is the day we celebrate, after Jesus' death and resurrection, when he was "taken up" into Heaven. We commemorate Jesus' death for freeing us from sin. But we rejoice even more in his ascension because through it he opened for US the door to heaven. This day exults in one of the most foundational hopes of Christendom. Because of his bodily ascension into heaven, we believe that we too will be raised and, in our flesh, see God. Hallelujah!

As a theologian, I feel the joyful exultation of the day's significance. But as a human, I can't help but feel the ache, confusion, and trepidation of seeing Jesus vanish from sight. The apostles would spend the next nine days in prayer before God's presence through the Holy Spirit would come and remain with them. Those days together must have felt long indeed. Surely their faith must have been tested in the interminable silence of that time. The most profound grace of the story is that they waited together. They may have felt bereft of Jesus' physical presence, but they had each other.

Most of us, at some point, have felt the absence of Christ's presence. Theologically we know God is with us, but that 18" distance between our head and heart can sometimes seem more like 18 miles. Our feelings of loss, loneliness, fear, and sadness can overwhelm our ability to feel in our bodies what our minds believe is true. This story says a "a cloud received" Jesus from their sight. Clouds are often used in Scripture to communicate the veil that makes a separation between earthly and heavenly realities. These clouds typically portend blessing and provision for God's people, but they require faith to see through. Sometimes we, like the disciples, must depend on our community, our friends, the church, and the faithful of every age to strengthen us when our trust fails. Together we pray, together we hope, and together we will see the faithfulness of God.

May we be a people who help to fortify the faith of one another, seeking and providing solace together.

-Rev. Becki

Collect: Almighty God, whose blessed Son our Savior Jesus Christ ascended far above all heavens that he might fill all things: Mercifully give us faith to perceive that, according to his promise, he abides with his Church on earth,

even to the end of the ages; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, in glory everlasting. 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.

### **Black Bear Festival and Bake Sale**

Come to Main St in Stanardsville on Saturday,

June 7th between 10:00 am - 4:00 pm for the  
Black Bear Festival and the Grace Episcopal  
ECW Bake Sale!



# COMING HOME

## *Reconnecting To Our Roots*



A Celebration of Fluvanna's  
African American History and Culture

### **JUNETEENTH EVENT INCLUDING:**

Historic Presentations - Musical Performances  
Hyme Singing - Elder Stories  
Vendors - Soul Food -  
Living Portraits - Local History

Saturday, June 21st, 2025: 10 am ~ 5 pm  
Bremo Bluff, Va

Bremo Chapel: 754 Bremo Bluff Rd, Bremo Bluff, VA 23022

Free Event. Traditional Meals Served for \$8.00/Plate

For more information, please contact Nina Monroe  
at 434-825-5298, or email [reconnectingtoroots@yahoo.com](mailto:reconnectingtoroots@yahoo.com).



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**

Cold Cereal  
Condiments  
Eggs  
Protein Drinks  
Paper towels  
Toilet paper  
Baby food

#### **Grief Support Group**

**Piedmont Episcopal Church, 214 Church St  
Madison, VA**

**June 3, 2025 - 6 p.m.**

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

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

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