



SOUNDS OF ST. FRANCIS

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Therefore the Lord Himself will give you a sign: Behold, a virgin will be with child and bear a son, and she will call His name Immanuel.

-Isaiah 7:14

CURRENT SCHEDULE

SUNDAYS

9:00 Sunday School ages

preschool- 8

9:15am Holy Eucharist

10:30am Coffee Hour

: -

MONDAYS

8:30am Morning Prayer

TUESDAYS

11am Bible Study

WEDNESDAYS

8:30am Morning Prayer

11am Book Club (3rd Wednesdays)

5pm Evening Prayer

THURSDAYS

12r o "Savvy Seniors \ qgo (1st"

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12r o Savvy Seniors Luncheon (3rd"

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FRIDAYS

8:30am Morning Prayer

5pm Evening Prayer



Welcome to Saint Francis Episcopal Church in Potomac, Maryland! Whether you have been a member of Saint Francis for decades or are new to our community, you will find here rich opportunities to worship the risen Lord, a warm welcome, and many opportunities to grow in faith and love.

Wherever you are in your own walk of faith, we would love to have you with us, not because we want something *from* you, but because we have tasted and seen that the Lord is good at Saint Francis, and we want to share that with you!

Rector's Message

What's Behind the Advent Wreath?



We Episcopalians have long prided ourselves on the venerability of the texts and customs we use in worship. It's true that many of the prayers we pray each week were written hundreds of years ago, and the basic patterns of our liturgy can be traced to the New Testament. But not everything we do that looks and feels old actually is.

The Advent Wreath, for example, isn't nearly as old as it seems. Christians in Northern Europe have been decorating with evergreens at Christmas since the Middle Ages. The symbolism is a natural one: God's Son comes to bring life to the world at the darkest time of the year, when chilling winds have killed nearly everything. But the candle still burns, and pine boughs stay green and fragrant. They gesture at wonders still to come: "The light shines in the darkness, but the darkness did not overcome it." (John 1:5)

But putting the candles on a wreath—that came much later, and as a solution to a parenting challenge most of us have experienced. The Rev. Johann Hinrich Wichern, a German Lutheran pastor, set up a free school for poor boys in Hamburg in the 1830's, and he quickly became tired of being asked so often in December how many days were left until Christmas.

Wichern's solution, in Advent 1839, was to tack 28 candles onto a cartwheel—24 red ones for the weekdays in Advent, and four white ones for the four Sundays. An additional candle was lit every day of the season at chapel services, and each boy could count for himself. As classroom management gimmicks go, this one was remarkably successful. Wichern founded a movement that established similar mission schools across the country, and as new schools were started, the wreath went along with them. Eventually it made its way into churches, with greenery added and just four candles—less of a fire hazard, I guess.

Rector's Message, continued

The wreath didn't actually make it across the Atlantic until the 1930's, among American Lutherans. Episcopalians didn't begin using them until even later, and the wreath became popular in the Church of England only after it made an appearance in a children's television program in 1964. Today, though, the wreath can be found in churches of many denominations in this season. Some Orthodox Christians, who have a longer pre-Christmas fast, even have wreaths with six candles.

Probably because Advent wreaths are fairly new, they are used in a variety of ways. Protestant churches often have a brief devotional service before a new candle is lit each Sunday, and different symbolic schema have been worked out to highlight different aspects of the way Christ's coming has changed the world. I'm asked each year by earnest acolytes about the order in which candles should be lit and other people want a decided opinion on what each one means. It's all a bit beside the point for me, so long as the rose-colored candle is lit on the third Sunday, when that shade is traditional (it's at least a few centuries older than the Advent wreath), as a sign of the joy that Christ's arrival brings.



It's probably best not to take the wreath too seriously or to complicate its use too much. We're all excited about the good things that Christmas brings—feasting, merriment, music, color, time with those we love, and the gift of God's Son that sets the whole spectacle into being. Marking the days of waiting with color and light makes them just a little more exciting, which is good for our souls. Try approaching Advent with the enthusiasm of a little boy from the Hamburg slums. He's the one it was made for in the first place, after all.



Children Happy in the Knowledge of God

This year's Sunday School Christmas Pageant will be extra special, since we'll have a live nativity. On December 10th, we'll have our 9:15am service immediately followed by the children's play in the church. Afterward, we'll all head outside to see the live animals (miniature pony, sheep, alpaca, and more) and sing Christmas carols.

The children are always very excited to show you their costumes and tell you about the Christmas story. This is a very exciting day for them, and we hope you will be here to support them. And, who doesn't love cute fluffy animals?!

**ST. FRANCIS
EPISCOPAL CHURCH**
WWW.STFRANCISPOTOMAC.ORG

**Sunday
School**

Open to KIDS ages 4-18

Register at stfrancispotomac.org
Or contact: Kathy at 301-365-2055

Every
Sunday!

Time:
9:00 am

Come Have
Fun!!

10033 River Rd Potomac, MD 20854

**Live Nativity
& Pageant**

The story of the Savior's birth, favorite
carols, and miniature barnyard animals!

DECEMBER 10 @ 9:15 AM

If you do not receive Sunday School or Youth Group emails and would like to do so, please reach out to Pastor Allison or Kathy Herrmann. Please contact Kathy Herrmann (kherrmann@stfrancispotomac.org) to sign your children up for Sunday School.



Christian Education

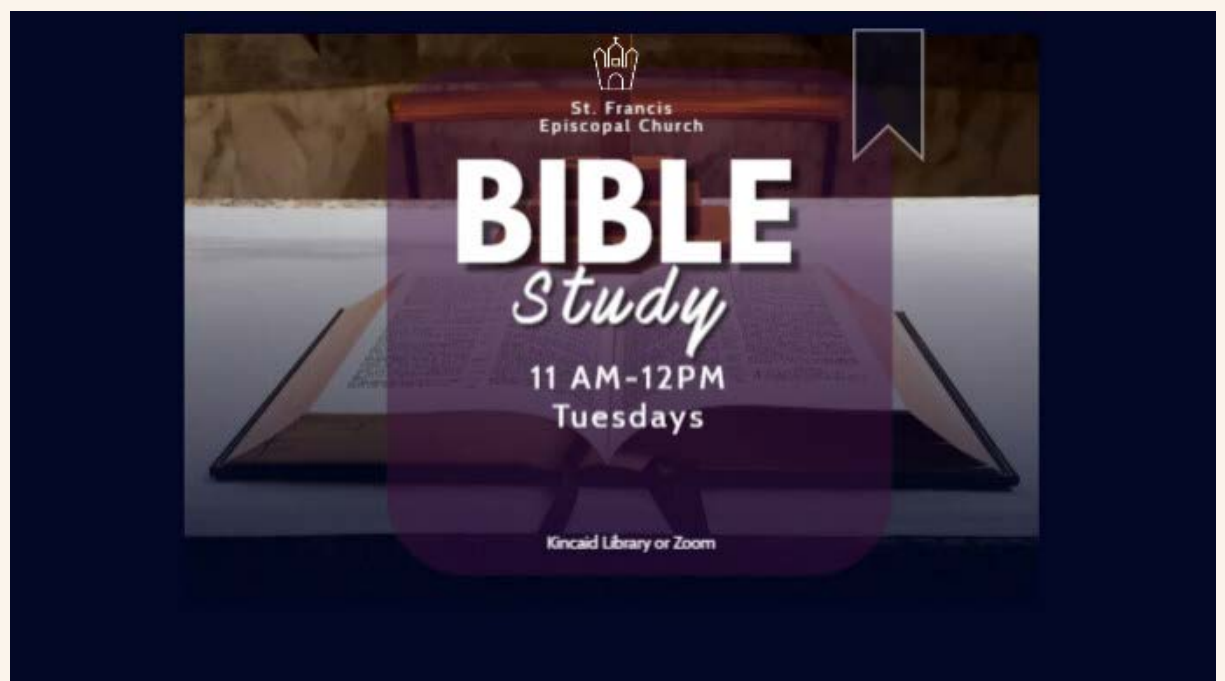
We have several options to keep your mind sharp and your spirit nourished. We hope you'll join us for some of these offerings:

Sunday School Sunday School Classes meet on Sundays at 9:00am prior to the service. Enter through the main entrance and follow the staircase to the left of the doors. Children are grouped by age so they can prepare for first communion and confirmation as appropriate. Contact the parish office or Kathy Herrmann to sign your children up. Sunday School children are currently preparing for the Christmas play and live nativity. Consistent attendance is very helpful to all involved in the play so that the children are fully prepared for the live show on **December 18th**. Thanks in advance for making every effort to bring your children to Sunday School each week!

Please let us know ahead of time if your children will not be attending Sunday School in a given week. This helps us schedule our volunteer teachers appropriately. If you do not receive Sunday School or Youth Group emails and would like to do so, please reach out to Pastor Allison or Kathy Herrmann.

Adult Forum A Class for New Members has begun, in preparation for the December 17 visit of our bishop, the Rt. Rev. Mariann Budde, to administer confirmation and receive people into the fellowship of the Anglican Communion. Classes continue on Sundays at 10:30 in person and on Mondays at 7:30 pm on Zoom.

Bible Study on Saint Paul's Epistle to the Ephesians continues on Tuesday at 11 in Kincaid Library. The Church, created by Christ and called to be an agent of God's reconciling work is the focus of this rich and beautiful text. Child care is provided.



Saint Francis Fall Faith Education

- ◉ **Heroes of the Bible (PK-3)**
- ◉ **One-Year, 66 Books (4-8)**
- ◉ **Christian Faith in War and Peace (Adult and Teen)**

AGES 3-8 @ 9:00 AM (UNDERCROFT)
AGES 9-13 @ 10:30 (LIBRARY)
ADULT FORUM @10:30 (PARISH HALL)
NURSERY AVAILABLE 9:00-11:00

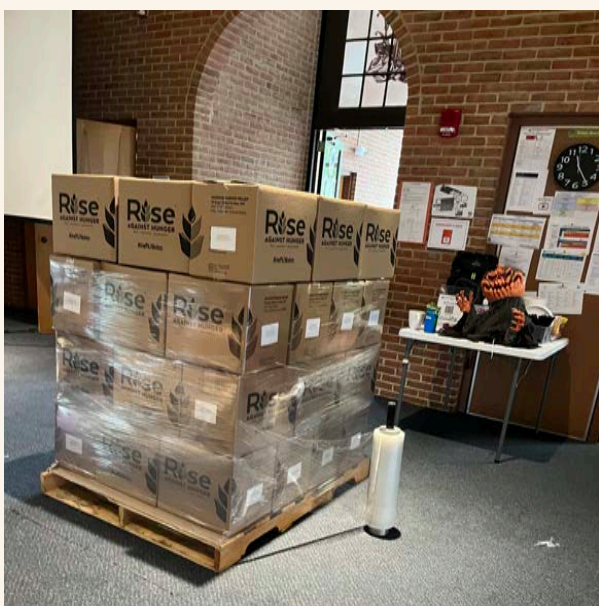


MERCY News

MERCY teens from Saint Francis, Saint James, and Christ Church have had a full fall! Past events included:

A welcome-back cookout (turned cook-in due to rain) at the home of Pastor Allison and Fr. Mark was a lively affair. Everyone enjoyed the time together, and we had many new friends join us!

Rise Against Hunger is always one of the highlights of the year. We pack 10,000 meals in just a few hours, and we had a chance to meet community members and new friends. We are especially grateful to Christ Church, Rockville for supporting the project financially and making the project a collaborative one!



Jacy Good with Hang Up and Drive: Talked to teens and parents about her moving story of faith, overcoming obstacles, and safety on the road. Every driver today should take a moment to hear her story-- it could save a life: www.youtube.com/watch?v=E9swS1Vl6Ok

Pumpkin Party: Creative talents of our teens unleashed on pumpkins-- and then delivered to area nursing homes and homebound members of the community! They were so grateful to be remembered here as the days shorten!

Trivia Night: We have some brilliant teens in this crew with some very obscure knowledge! Bravo!



MERCY YOUTH

Upcoming EVENTS

Nov 12

Garage Night @ Schneiders'

Learn your way around a car and a tool bench! Great prep for mission trip!

Dec 3

MERCY Christmas Party

6:30-7:30 pm @ Saint James

Dec 16

Wreaths Across America

11:00-1:30, Arrive @ Monacacy Battlefield by 11:45

Dec 17

Christmas Caroling at Nursing Homes (Family Event)

2:00 -4:00 pm

Jan 14

Mission Trip Prep Meeting

6:30-8:30pm

Jan 28

What are they Thinking? A Game for Parents and Teens

FOR MORE INFORMATION EMAIL
amichael@stfrancispotomac.org

PARISH LIFE

We have been busy with a variety of fun activities here at St. Francis. We work hard to have activities that appeal to a wide range of ages and interests, and we hope you have enjoyed some of the recent things we have done together. Mark your calendars now for the upcoming events, so you don't miss out on any of the fun.

Recent Activites and Events:

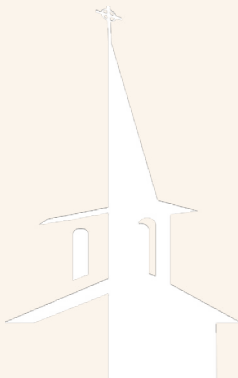
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St. Francis Fall Fest
Our annual Fall Fest held during Potomac Day was a huge success! We hosted several vendors from the community. Our Flower Guild was front and center with their beautiful arrangements. It was a beautiful day for shopping, food from the grill and fellowship!



Blessing of the Animals
To celebrate St. Francis, the patron saint of animals, we held a blessing of the pets. Animals were each individually blessed and recieved a pendent with an enscription of St. Francis. The event was full of big smiles, tail wags, and barking all around.



Holy Ghost Weenie Roast
We had a great time seeing some of our littles and furry friends in costume for our Holy Ghost Weenie Roast!

Lobster Fest
Thank you to the Men of St. Francis and all of our members who attended the Lobster Fest! It is always a good time when family and friends get together to enjoy a fancy crustacean!





Family Fun Time!
Families decorated fun
fall crafts! Join us on
December 3rd for our
Advent Wreath making!



Maryland Boy Choir joined our service with their wonderful voices during and after the service!



HONORING OUR VETERANS

Each year on Veteran's Day, the flower guild marks veterans' columbarium niches with flowers and provides a boutineer for our living veterans. We honor your service and your sacrifice. We know that this the land of the free be-cause of the brave, and we know YOU are the brave service. Many thanks to the flower guild for these lovely and thoughtful tributes. And thank you to the **Maryland Boychoir** (and Nancy Cressy, who brought them to us) for enriching our worship!





Baptisms

Deuteronomy 6:5–9 You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise.

We welcome the newly baptized into the household of God: Sasha Maroulis (top left), Henry Kaltenborn (top right), Tim Seward (right center), Weston Whitlock and Levi Leemhuis (bottom right)





Every Sunday Funday at Sunday School



The cribbery is always fun, but a few of our little ones prefer to stay in worship and bring smiles to everyone around them.

CHRISTMAS 2023

05

DEC

LESSONS AND CAROLS

CHURCH | 5:00 PM

10

DEC

PAGEANT AND NATIVITY

CHURCH | 9:15 AM

16

DEC

CHRISTMAS OPEN HOUSE

CHURCH | 4:00 PM

23

DEC

CHRISTMAS BASKETS

ST. FRANCIS HALL | 9:00 AM

24

DEC

FAMILY CAROL SERVICE

CHURCH | 5:00 PM

24

DEC

CANDLELIGHT EUCHARIST

CHURCH | 10:00 PM

25

DEC

CHRISTMAS DAY MASS

CHURCH | 10:00 AM

STFRANCISPOTOMAC.ORG

Upcoming Events

Live Nativity Pageant

DECEMBER 10 @ 9:15 PM



Make An Advent Wreath



Dec. 3

Saint Francis Church

Advent

Lessons and Carols

Sunday, December 3 at 5 PM



Potomac Churches Welcome YOU

Christmas Open House Tour

SATURDAY
DECEMBER
16

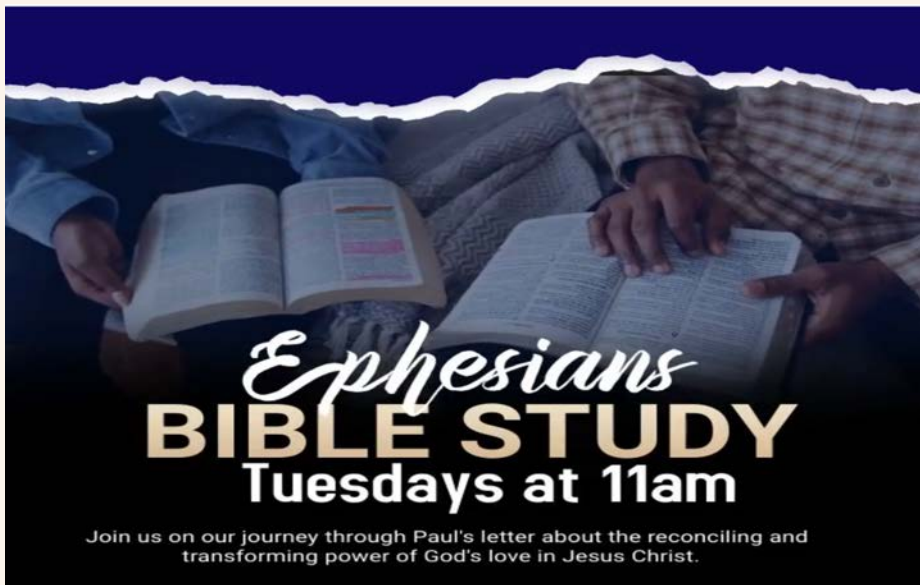
Experience the beauty, music, traditions, and treats of the season.

For a schedule of open house events for each congregation, and a preview of Christmas worship, look inside!

Ephesians BIBLE STUDY

Tuesdays at 11am

Join us on our journey through Paul's letter about the reconciling and transforming power of God's love in Jesus Christ.



BOOK CLUB
DEC 20 @ 11

A SHEPHERD LOOKS AT PSALM 23



Tis the Season for Giving



OUTREACH HOLIDAY GIVING: **ANNUAL CHRISTMAS FOOD BOX COLLECTION** **Give a Meal, Give a Gift Card, Give an Hour,** **Make a Difference!**

A joyful and family-friendly Advent tradition at St. Francis, the Christmas Food Box collection provides all the fixings for a holiday meal to families or individuals struggling with unemployment, inflation and incapacitating medical conditions. Food insecurity is more persistent and pervasive than you might think: over 200 individuals and families in our zip code alone qualify for holiday assistance. The Parish Outreach Committee partners with Community Reach of Montgomery County and the County's Holiday Giving Project to help alleviate the need, and hopes you'll help.

Christmas Basket Shopping List:

5 lbs. potatoes (or large box of instant potatoes) 1 64 oz. apple or other non-refrigerated juice

3 lbs. apples, oranges or clementines

4 15 oz. cans vegetables (green beans, carrots, peas, corn)

***include a \$30 grocery gift card (or the equivalent in smaller increments) for a turkey, ham or roast (be sure the values are clearly indicated)**

2 15 oz. cans cranberry sauce

2 bags or boxes stuffing

1 package dinner rolls or biscuit/cornbread mix

1 dessert: pumpkin or apple pie, holiday cookies, or cake (check dates)

2 cans, jars or envelopes gravy

5 large sweet potatoes or 1 large can yams

Welcome additions include a Christmas card or ornament and:

- Staples such as pasta, rice, beans, peanut butter, tuna, cereal, soup, healthy snacks
- Disposable roasting or baking pans, pot holders
- Holiday napkins, kitchen towels, candles, candies or cookies, baking mixes (quick breads, cakes, brownies, gingerbread etc.), nuts, stocking stuffers

NOTE: A new laundry basket or sturdy plastic storage bin makes a useful "box." Please do not seal boxes: the Outreach Committee may have extra items to add.

Involve your children: This is a wonderful way to help your children learn Jesus' message of loving and helping our neighbors. Have them help you shop, write a note, and decorate your box with wrapping paper, old Christmas cards, or their own artwork. Add items together nightly after lighting the Advent wreath.

Drop off boxes and cards in St. Francis Hall, using the Counselman Road entrance, on

Friday, December 22, 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Saturday, December 23, 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Won't be in town those dates, or need help purchasing gift cards? Contact Susan Dolan or Andy Jordan to make alternative arrangements.

If grocery shopping is difficult for you, please instead donate \$50-\$60 worth of grocery store gift cards (or more, to provide for 'extras') in increments of \$10, \$20, \$25. Cards may be brought to the church office ahead of time or at drop-off times; be sure all values are clearly indicated. No checks, please.



GIVING TREE FOR STEPPING STONES
SHELTER:
MAKE A CHRISTMAS WISH COME TRUE
FOR A NEIGHBOR IN NEED

Stepping Stones in Rockville is one of the few local shelters housing intact families, offering them a home as they work toward self-sufficiency and transition from temporary to independent housing. Each holiday season Stepping Stones holds a Holiday Boutique for its residents, filled with donated gifts. Current and former residents can ‘shop’ for free, ensuring that each family member receives at least one new holiday gift of his or her choosing.

Here’s how you help. After the first Sunday in Advent, look for the decorated Christmas tree in the parish building lobby hung with gift tags. Each contains a ‘wish list’ item for a child, teen or adult. The full ‘Wish List’ is posted nearby, with copies available for you to pick up and use for your own shopping. Take a tag--or two--and a list with you, and purchase one or more of the items. Deliver the gifts directly to Stepping Stones Monday-Friday 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., or return UNWRAPPED to the church office no later than Friday, December 15 and the Outreach Committee will deliver for you.

Stepping Stones Shelter is 15 minutes from St. Francis at 1070 Copperstone Court, near the intersection of Wooton Parkway and Rockville Pike (301-251-0567). Please note: the Outreach Committee cannot deliver gifts returned to the office after 12/15.

LOOKING FOR AN EASY, GRATIFYING VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY FOR YOURSELF OR YOUR FAMILY?
We’re looking for a ‘GIVING TREE COORDINATOR’ to decorate the tree, make gift tags, and help deliver gifts.

Call the office (301-365-2055) or contact Susan Dolan (240-472-4379, s.leighdolan@gmail.com) or Andy Jordan (240-888-1332, marionaj@aol.com) with any questions.

Thank you for helping bring joy to our partner families at Community Reach and Stepping Stones. Warm wishes for a blessed Advent to you and yours!

The Parish Outreach Committee



Stewardship Campaign for 2024- Wrapping up

We are in the process of wrapping up the Stewardship 2024 campaign, and the Finance Committee and the Vestry are starting work on our budget for 2024.

If you have not yet had a chance to submit your pledge for 2024, we would greatly appreciate your doing so as soon as you can. It will help us in our planning for next year. .

If you have a pledge card, you can just fill it out and return it to the Church office. If, like me, you cannot locate something that came in more than a month ago, or if you did not receive a pledge card, you can make a pledge either by: (i) going on line at the Church’s website (www.stfrancispotomac.org) to REALM and following the directions there for making a pledge; or (ii) sending a note to the Church office stating your intent to make a pledge and the amount.

For all of you who have already submitted your pledges for 2024, we thank you very much – Father Mark, Pastor Allison, and the Vestry are all very grateful for your support.

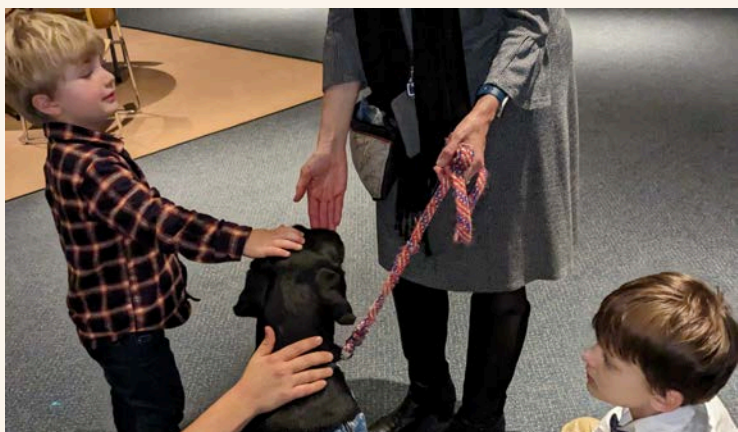
Prentiss Feagles
Vestry Member and Stewardship
Chair

Talk of the Town Monthly Speaker Series

Open to the Public



Canine Warrior Connection



**Gaines
Hurdle with
Coffee Expert
and ToT guest
Cori Russell**

To date, we have had an excellent turnout for all of our talks, and we had many visitors join us to hear our esteemed speakers. There is dinner before the talk, and invite you to come and bring a friend!



Talk of the Town 2nd Wednesdays 6:30pm

Upcoming: January 10, Roy Day takes to the Skies

Click here for a short interview with Roy!

<https://bit.ly/3T9SWTV>

Property Maintenance and Repairs

We have been busy with property and facility maintenance and repairs over the past few months. Here are some of the projects we have undertaken:

- We have successfully passed all of our inspection and are good through the fall of 2024.
- The first phase of a multi-phased HVAC project is complete! As of 14 July 2023 the new air-handlers, One, Two and Three along with the new rooftop chiller have been commissioned by the contractor and officially approved by Montgomery County Department of Permitting Services. This new equipment serves St. Francis Hall, Administrative Offices, the Cribbery and common hallway areas.
- Phase two is currently under design development and is expected to begin 3rd quarter of 2024. Current scope pertains to boiler replacements and infrastructure HVAC piping and valves.
- The front door work has been completed and the electronic buzzer works.
- Johnson Controls completed the final test of the fire panel and Montgomery County Fire Marshall gave us their approval.
- Completed the flagstone replacement/repairs. We will continue to make repairs next summer.
- The building and painting of the new fence around the columbarium has been completed.
- Rockville Landscaping has removed a large mounding pine tree that was almost on top of Glenolden House and a smaller tree. They have also removed and dug out the roots of all the bamboo to our fence line. Next we need to put down top soil and plant grass seed. The idea is to have Francis Landscaping mow over the new shoots.
- Francis Landscaping resodded the garden on the north side of the walkway between the church and St. Francis Hall. There have been various plantings and other improvements made on the grounds around the church
- Hung a new flag and replaced the spotlight with a solar powered one.
- Replaced one toilet opposite the school's library that broke.
- The kitchen oven has been calibrated and the new disposal installed.



Upcoming Projects:

- We have an extensive list of items to correct from the recent walk through. Items we will tackle through next summer are:
- Repaint the parking lot lines and add driveway sealer/filler to the cracks.
- Replace the half-moon window in the kindergarten room. The two pieces of glass came loose during a storm and fell into the classroom. Thankfully, no one was hurt. We are waiting for another bid.
- SFH – Carpet/Vinyl - we are getting bids and hope to begin work in January.

VOICE of the Vestry

FROM THE SENIOR WARDEN

The Vestry met virtually on September 19 & October 17, 2023, to discuss matters pertinent to the operation and management of St Francis. Highlights from those meetings include the following.

Financial Committee Report:

There is a \$48,000 increase in the church's net assets thanks to strong pledge revenue, giving St. Francis a positive change in net assets (net surplus) of \$205,000. A surplus is forecasted through the end of 2023. The HVAC project is fully funded for Phase 1 – part of this project was funded by donor restricted gifts. The Employee Retention Tax Credit (ERTC) of approximately \$70,000 has been delayed, and may be received in 2025.

The required audit is currently taking place. Margaret Riddle and Marybeth Krajcik have been working to prepare the necessary information for Hozik & Co to complete their work.

Stewardship

The Stewardship campaign began October 5 and ended with a celebration of our offerings on October 29. The Budget Committee sets these dates for budget planning purposes and by no means ends the time to submit your pledge. Please contact the office or any Vestry member with questions on how to submit a pledge.

Organ Renovation

The Whitesel Organ Company's installation of the console sent well. The new instrument has made for a more reliable provision of music and eliminated many of the risks that were feared. The fundraising goal of \$60,000 has been met.

Georgetown Hill School (GHS) Space Rental Lease

GHS is ready to take possession of their leased space in the cribbery with the new GHS Lease Agreement, the satisfactory report from the Fire Inspector's review of the fire alarm upgrades has been completed.

Grounds

The Grounds Committee has spent all the budgeted funds on several improvements around the campus, especially the re-sodding of the gardens on the north side of the walkway between the church and St. Francis Hall, a project that had been budgeted for 2023. There have been various plantings and other improvements made on the grounds around the church buildings. The new Fencing looks fantastic.

The preceding summary is intended to highlight certain discussions held by the Vestry. Please feel free to reach out to Sue Tendall, Sr. Warden, or any other Vestry members with questions or concerns.



A Letter from Our Organist and Choir Director John Widmann

Internationally known Carillonneur



As you may be aware, we are in the middle of a large renovation of our organ. Our M.P. Moller organ was installed in 1979, and a number of things are in rough shape. Organ renovations need to occur about every 30 years, and we got 43. So, we have no complaints with the Moller company, which has been out-of-business since 1992.

Before my arrival, the contract was signed with Whitesel Organ Company, of Harrisonburg, VA. The contract allows for complete replacement of the console (the keyboards) of the organ, and replacement of the old cotton wrapped wires that connect the console with the actions and chests of the organ. The console is quite an improvement. Our old console had five general pistons (for pre-programming sets of stops across the whole organ, all three manuals and pedals, and 3 divisional pistons for each manual and pedal. These were set electro-pneumatically on the console (air actually activated them in the console), when they worked.

The new console will have 12 general pistons, and 6 divisionals for each manual and pedal. In addition, these settings are controlled by 999 memories. So, the possibilities to program memories for guest artists, substitute organists and for me are plentiful.



ST. FRANCIS CHURCH
INVITES YOU AND YOURS
TO JOIN US FOR A

HOME COMING BRUNCH

November 26, following the 9:15 am Service



Join us for a
Homecoming Brunch
next Sunday November 26th
after the 9:15am service. We
look forward to welcoming
your out of town guests,
returning college students,
and youth group and Sunday
school alumni.

RSVP to
scarlettco@comcast.net

Christmas Cookie Sale! We
are holding our annual youth
group fundraiser for this
summer's Youth Group
Mission Trip with Appalachia
Service Project. Order your
favorite cookies here:

bit.ly/3glLzHH.

Order deadline is **December
11**, and cookies will be ready
to **pick up on December 17th**
after church.



SERVICE PROJECT FUN SHEET

seek to serve & random acts of kindness

*It's Service Project Bingo! Mark off activities as your family finishes them and see if you can complete five in a row.
For links & expanded information about these activities, visit <http://nourishingjoy.com/advent>.*

RECORD AN AUDIOBOOK FOR LIBRIVOX	DECORATE AN ONLINE TREE FOR SHARE-A-TREE	MAKE THANK YOU CARDS TO HAVE READY FOR CHRISTMAS & BIRTHDAYS	FUND A \$25 MICRO-LOAN VIA KIVA.ORG	PARTICIPATE IN AN ANGEL TREE THROUGH PRISON FELLOWSHIP
MAKE A GIVING LIST - A LIST OF GIFTS YOU'D LIKE TO GIVE INSTEAD RECEIVE	PACK A CHRISTMAS SHOEBOX FOR OPERATION SHOEBOX	DELIVER A HOT DRINK TO SOMEONE WHO'S BEEN OUTSIDE IN THE COLD ALL DAY	BUY A GOAT/ BEES/ETC FOR A FAMILY IN NEED IN A THIRD-WORLD COUNTRY	DELIVER A HOT CHOCOLATE MIX OR BAKING MIX TO SOMEONE WHO LIVES ALONE
CHOOSE TOYS TO GIVE TO A TOY DRIVE	AS A FAMILY, EAT AT LEAST ONE MEAL A WEEK AT A COMMUNITY MEAL OR SHELTER	DRAW A CHEERY PICTURE FOR SOMEONE WHO'S ILL OR GRIEVING	MAKE "ON THE GO" BAGS TO HAVE READY FOR THOSE WHO ASK FOR HANDOUTS	READ AT A LOCAL NURSING HOME
WRITE A "GIFTS WE ALREADY HAVE" LIST & POST IT SO ANYONE CAN CONTINUE TO ADD TO IT	DELIVER OR DONATE BLANKETS TO THOSE WHO SLEEP IN THE COLD	SING CAROLS WITH A SHUT-IN	CHOOSE 2-3 NON-PERISHABLE FOOD ITEMS TO DONATE TO A LOCAL FOOD BANK	GO ON A TRASH WALK AND HELP CLEAN UP YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD
MAIL A CARD TO A RELATIVE THAT YOU HAVE NOT SEEN IN A WHILE	SIT WITH A CHILD WHO NEEDS A FRIEND AT LUNCH	ADOPT AND PARTNER WITH A LOW-INCOME FAMILY VIA THE GIVING TREE	DELIVER COOKIES OR CARDS TO THE OFFICE STAFF OF A LOCAL CHARITY	GATHER SCHOOL SUPPLIES TO DONATE TO YOUR CHILD'S CLASS

Rector

Fr. Mark Michael

mmichael@stfrancispotomac.org

Pastor for Adult and Youth Formation

Rev. Dr. Allison Michael

amichael@stfrancispotomac.org

Organist and Choirmaster

John Widmann

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Property Manager

Shanti Nanan

snanan@stfrancispotomac.org

Parish Life, Sunday School & Outreach

Coordinator Kathy Herrmann

kherrmann@stfrancispotomac.org

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