

# Kiddie Link

## Follow Me

Then the LORD God made a woman from the rib he had taken out of the man, and he brought her to the man...For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and they will become one flesh. The man and his wife were both naked, and they felt no shame. Genesis 2:22-25

Whenever I read this verse, I get all dreamy-eyed and wistful. The last part that always gets me, "The man and his wife were both naked, and they felt no shame." It's that point of "no shame," of pure, sweet, unaffected love for each other.

Though I have a fantastic husband, we don't live in Eden. We both brought emotional baggage and unhealthy habits into our marriage. I can remember early in our marriage yearning to be loved like that, peppering my prayers for Todd to really know me and for me to be brave enough to reveal all of me to him.

Thankfully, God answers prayers, but not always as we imagine. He spent a few years showing me that He loved me that way and He wanted me to love Him unashamedly and unabashedly. It meant spending time getting to know Him through Bible study, time confessing everything He already knew about me in prayer, and ultimately, accepting the gift of His love. As I grew in His love, I found the courage to love Todd more freely and to accept Todd's love as it was given.

But the beauty of this part of scripture isn't reserved just for married folks. He calls all of us to be in this kind of relationship with Himself. As Christ is the bridegroom, we, the church, are His bride. We all get to be loved so perfectly. Through Christ's sacrifice of Himself, His love is ours for the taking. Please, consider accepting this gift if you haven't already. If you have, stretch yourself in returning this kind of love to Him and to others.

As a side note to all the married couples, August 19 & 20 at West End Assembly of God, Dr. Gary Chapman will be holding a conference based on his book, "The Five Languages of Love," <http://www.firstthingsrichmond.org/topic/article/29516>. If you're feeling like your marriage isn't all you wish it could be or even if things are going great, I strongly urge you to consider going. St. Matthew's is a sponsoring church and therefore can offer a discount on tickets. See Mario or the table in the Parish Hall for more details.

With joy,

Jill, DCE

St. Matthew's  
Episcopal Church

1101 Forest Avenue  
Richmond, Virginia 23229

Phone: 804.288.1911  
Email: [jillatstmatts@hotmail.com](mailto:jillatstmatts@hotmail.com)  
[www.stmatthewsrichmond.org](http://www.stmatthewsrichmond.org)

## Monthly Mentions

**Do you remember being in Sunday School as a child?** Maybe that one teacher that made you feel extra special? Guess what? Now is your chance to be that teacher. We are in need of Sunday school teachers for all ages (Toddler through High School). Please prayerfully consider whether or not you should give it a whirl. Call Jill if you're interested, 288-1911.

**NO SUNDAY SCHOOL** August 28 & Sept 4. If you are working in any of the nurseries, please plan on reporting for duty at 10:15.

**Nursery Help is still needed.** We have some holes this month. If you are willing to pull an extra duty, please call Jill Rich at 288-1911 to volunteer.

**Don't forget**—the volunteer schedules are now on the website, [stmatthewsrichmond.org](http://stmatthewsrichmond.org). The password is rockycat.

\*\*\*\*\* **Sunday School/ Children's Choir Registration Forms** will be emailed out soon. Please fill them out and return them to Jill. We're trying to reduce the amount of forms we send out and create a database. Thanks for your help in this.

## Nursery Schedule

**Thank you to all from the congregation, as well as all the parents who have selflessly offered their time to care for our younger parishioners.**

**If you would like to be included on the schedule, call Jill at 288-1911.**

Date	Infants	Toddlers	Preschoolers
August 7	Linda Wilson Wendell Wilson	Megan Lloyd Chris Lloyd	January Britt Jeff Britt
14	???	Karine Marshall	Ann Brown
	???	Calvin Marshall	Boyd Brown
21	Katheryn Bowles Nancy Knight	Holly Curell Ken Curell	Stacy Relyea Bob Relyea
28*	Alison Barnes Matt Barnes	Heather Creswick Tom Veech	Elizabeth Spadea John Spadea