

St. Matthews

Episcopal Church

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Kiddie Link

Follow Me

Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen. And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. Get rid of all bitterness, rage and anger, brawling and slander, along with every form of malice. Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.

Ephesians 4:29—32

As a parent, don't you hate being the bad guy? The one who has to lay down the law, then spend forever repeating the rules to deaf ears. "Please pick up your socks. Please don't leave your dirty dishes in the sink. Please do not call your brother a doo-doo head." To our children, the rules can seem to be just another cruel way we try to control their lives.

Thankfully, though, we're not the rule makers. God is. He knows how difficult it is to parent human beings. He knows how we squirm under authority and how frustrating being in authority over others can be.

In His word, we have all the directives we need to raise up our children. Though our kids may want to argue with us over the rules, once we direct them to scripture, they can take the argument to God.

Case in point—there are times that unsavory words have been uttered in the Rich household. As a parent, I can remind them of what is appropriate. If the issue continues, I get to show them where God made the rules, not me (see Eph 4:29 above). It's just not a "word" issue, it's a heart issue. Is their heart seeking to be like God's or be a god?

A couple of neat things happen at this point. One, you're off the hook. You didn't make up some random rule. You're simply repeating what God says is the right thing to do. Secondly, your child sees that God is the authority in your home. He is the one you follow. Lastly, if the child doesn't agree with the rule, lead him/her in prayer. Ask God to show him/her why He wants us to follow His rules. You're encouraging your child's relationship with Him.

But to know what the rules should be, you've got to know His word. He longs for us to know Him and to live our lives His way. He's pretty open about what He expects—no hidden codes or mysterious rules.

If you're not already making time to read your Bible, dust it off and put it next to your bed. Promise yourself the last thing you'll do before you fall asleep is five minutes of reading. Don't know where to start, give Proverbs or Ephesians a try.

I'm always happy to provide a listening ear if you need help, too.

Joyfully in this together,

Jill, DCE

St. Matthew's Episcopal Church

1101 Forest Avenue
Richmond, Virginia 23229

Phone: 804.288.1911
Email: jillatstmatts@hotmail.com
www.stmatthewsrichmond.org

Monthly Mentions

The Gamers—will meet next meet on June 3rd (3rd—5th graders) at the Mini-Golf on Patterson from 7—8. The game is paid for, but snacks/drinks are not. Please RSVP to Andrew Thompson by Friday morning—andannthom@cavtel.net.

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. The password is rockycat.

VBS 2011—Jesus Truth Seekers: Mission Possible Registration is now in progress. Pick up your forms in the main office or email Jill at jillatstmatts@hotmail.com. We are still in need of a few volunteers!

No Sunday School June 26 or July 3! See you again on July 10. Infant nursery will be provided. Toddler and Preschool class will be combined. K—5th will be combined and learning about the different aspects of Liturgical worship. Want to teach or assist a Sunday? Give Jill a call—288-1911.

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.

Date	Infants	Toddlers	Preschoolers
June 5	Lynda Jenkins	Karine Marshall	Wynn Burr
	Nancy Knight	Calvin Marshall	Blake Burr
12	???	January Britt	Kate Garitz
	Carol Grainger	Jeff Britt	Shawn Garitz
19	Pam Roach	Megan Lloyd	Stacy Relyea
	???	Chris Lloyd	Bob Relyea
26	???	???	???
	???	???	???

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