

St. Matthews
Episcopal Church
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May 2011

Kiddie Link

Follow Me

When Jesus reached the spot, he looked up and said to him, “Zacchaeus, come down immediately. I must stay at your house today.” So he came down at once and welcomed him gladly.

All the people saw this and began to mutter, “He has gone to be the guest of a sinner.” Luke 19:5—7

One “game” my teen guys sometimes play when we’re driving down by VCU is “which kid is the art student?” Granted, it’s pretty obvious. Just look for the guy with skinny jeans, plaid shirt, and punked out hair. Or the girl with tattoos up and down her body and pink hair.

We could do the same sort of thing downtown...”who’s the executive?” Count the guys in dark suits and blue ties or the ladies in conservative dress.

We all adopt a uniform of sorts, regardless of what we do. It’s a form of identification to the rest of the world, informing everyone who we are and where we belong. There is not a thing wrong with that—as long as we do not allow judgment to follow.

I love my artist friends and their creative expression of self. I know that some of it is meant to put off people, to keep them at arms length. It is also a way for them to “say” visually for what they struggle to find words.

If Jesus had followed the acceptable social rules about who was permissible to associate with, Zacchaeus and all his good time friends would have never met Jesus. Zacchaeus would have stayed up in that tree, ridiculed by those around.

Instead, Jesus took the risk and offered his hand in love. He didn’t pretend to look past what Zacchaeus was (bloody tax collector), but acknowledged him, then gave him a chance to be himself. In the face of such honest love, Zacchaeus wanted to come clean, wanted to repent and do right. He didn’t give up being a tax collector, but he became an honest tax collector.

Friends, as we go about doing God’s business, try to be real about why there are some people you don’t want to share God with or why some are easier. Be careful about judging someone by how they look. Watch out for confusing the desire for another to know God with the desire for everyone to be like you. One way will give your friend life, the other death for you both.

Struggling with you,

Jill, DCE

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Monthly Mentions

The Gamers—will meet next meet in June Stay tuned for more information.

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.

Thank you to everyone for their Mite box contribution. Everyone's generous donations totaled \$317.28—enough to cover 5 months of clothing, schooling, nourishment and shelter for both children!

VBS 2011—Mission Possible Registration is now in progress. Pick up your forms in the main office or email Jill at jillatstmatts@hotmail.com.

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
May 1	Lynda Jenkins	Karine Marshall	Adrian Hudgins
	Carol Grainger	Calvin Marshall	Susan Harrison
8	Nancy Knight	Laura Allin	Katie Musick
	???	???	Bert Musick
15	Alison Barnes	Heather Creswick	Kaki Vint
	Matt Barnes	Tom Veech	Jacob Rich
22	Kathryn Bailey	Elizabeth Spadea	???
	Katheryn Bowles	John Spadea	???
29	Pam Roach	Gail Ridgeway	Gretchen DeFrancesca
	Svenja Lessman	Barry Ridgeway	Todd DeFrancesca