

St. Matthew's
Episcopal
Church

KIDDIE LINK

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Your face, LORD, I will seek.

Psalm 27: 8

While reading my devotion the other evening, I was struck by verse 8 of Psalm 27, "My heart says of you, 'seek His face.' Your face, LORD, I will seek." I pictured a little boy grabbing his parent's face and pulling it close to his own to get his point across.

As I contemplated seeking God's face, I wished He would just grab my face and with Hollywood sci-fi skills, zap me. And then zap my kids. But that would be Him seeking my face and He already knows me because He made me. The verse is really all about me seeking Him and that's the hard part.

Seeking Him takes discipline. Just like learning a foreign language, you have to make a daily effort to master the material. Daily time with Him in His word, prayer and fellowship all help to reveal His face to us.

But unlike a language, the benefits of learning God go beyond the academic. Knowing God is loving God. Loving Him is being in relationship with Him, which in return, we are loved by Him.

He gives us His peace. In the chaos of parenting and politics, His peace will help keep our vision cleared of emotional debris and obstacles.

He is our champion. Every little girl wants a knight in shining armour (or vampire). Every little boy wants to go to battle and win. God fights for us and when He is on our side, we are victorious.

God also gives us His vision. We begin to see each other and creation as He does. His love for us overflows into our relationships and to our work. We see each other as made in His image and worthy of respect. Work, though sometimes tedious, becomes an opportunity to give Him glory with a job well done.

My prayer for you and your children is that together we may seek His face. I pray not only that we would seek Him, but that we would hunger and thirst for Him to the point that nothing else would suffice. And then take His love for us and pour it out on all those around.

With joy,

Jill

Wherever the believer is, he can find a way to the throne of grace by prayer. God calls us by his Spirit, by his word, by his worship, and by special providences, merciful and afflict-ing...The word does us no good, when we do not ourselves accept the exhortation: a gracious heart readily answers to the call of a gracious God, being made willing in the day of his power... God's time to help those that trust in him, is, when all other helpers fail. He is a surer and better Friend than earthly parents are, or can be. What was the belief which supported the psalmist? That he should see the goodness of the Lord. There is nothing like the believing hope of eternal life, the foresights of that glory, and foretastes of those pleasures, to keep us from fainting under all calamities...Let us encourage each other to wait on the Lord, with patient expectation, and fervent prayer.—
Matthew Henry

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Announcements

Summer Sunday school continues through August 23rd. Children ages preschool through 5th grade are learning about the Catechism. We are still in need of teachers for all ages. If available, please call, Jill Rich at 288-1911.

Fall Sunday School will begin on September 13th. We are in need of teachers. Please consider serving in this capacity. The obligation is rotational, the first month you will serve as the assistant and the second month as teacher, then off for two months. Call Jill for more information—288-1911.

August 30th—there is NO SUNDAY SCHOOL. If you are working as a volunteer that morning, please plan on arriving at 10:15.

When you're shopping for school supplies, throw in an extra box of crayons or glue sticks. St. Matthew's is collecting school supplies for distribution in the Richmond area. You have until August 14th to get your donations to the Parish Hall.

Childcare Schedule

	Date	Wiggle Worms	Lady Bugs	Grasshoppers/June Bugs
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.	August 2	Carol Grainger	Kaki Vint	Gretchen DeFrancesca
		Anne Simpson	Jacob Rich	Todd DeFrancesca
	August 9	Jean Ray	Todd Rich	Kate Garitz
			Mack Rich	Shawn Garitz
	August 16	Megan Lloyd	Wynn Burr	Susan Harrison
		Chris Lloyd	Blake Burr	Adrian Hudgins
If you would like to be included on the schedule, call Jill at 288-1911.	August 23	Natalie Axtell	Laura Allin	Linda Wilson
		Cliff Axtell	Danny Cox	Wendell Wilson
	August 30*	Katie Musick	Gretchen DeFrancesca	Lila White
		Bert Musick	Todd DeFrancesca	John White