

St. Matthews

Episcopal Church

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# Kiddie Link

## Follow Me

“For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the LORD, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.”—Jeremiah 29:11

As a believer, this verse gives such great hope. Within the context of this scripture, God is speaking to His people. After 70 years of exile, He promises to return and call them back to Himself. Israel will seek Him and He will be found. He will gather His people back unto Himself.

Like all parents, we all want the guarantee that our children will grow up to be good, contributing citizens and believers. We want to know that by following the discipline program suggested by a certain specialist the results will be perfectly behaved children. Or this particular advice will lead to teens that are not rebellious or promiscuous. If our kids go to all the “right” schools, they will get into our alma mater.

There are no guarantees in scripture about raising perfect kids. In fact, it’s quite the opposite. We (and our children) are very much like the Israelites. We sin against God and chose to go our own way. Our nature guarantees our sinfulness.

But God is consistent. He threatened punishment and followed through. His people continued to disobey and were disciplined by exile to Babylon. God, in His great love for them, warned them of the consequences of their behavior. He is a trustworthy God and kept His promise to punish them. He also kept His promise to be there for them. When their “time out” was up, He was waiting with open arms, ready to receive them back into relationship.

Whether your dealing with an unruly preschooler, disobedient elementary son or daughter or a rascally teen, follow God’s example and be consistent in your discipline and readily welcome them back into relationship. God’s plan for parenting promotes trust and the outcome is a stronger family founded in God’s love.

With joy,

Jill, DCE

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## Monthly Mentions

**The Gamers**—this Sunday 12:30—2:00. 3rd—5th grades. Meet down in Matt's Place for fellowship and lunch. Contact Andrew Thompson at 741-7162 to RSVP.

**Trunk or Treat**—October 30, 3:00—5:00 Games, trick or treating, costumes, all in the safe environment of St. Matthew's. To help out or for more information, call Bethany Piersol at 526-3698.

**Nursery Help is still needed.** We have some holes this fall. 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.

**Christmas Pageant** rehearsal will be starting soon! If you're interested in helping out, call Virginia Witmer at 282-1250.

## 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
November 7	Katheryn Bowles Nancy Knight	Patricia Lewis	Adrian Hudgins Kaki Vint
14	Allison Barnes Matt Barnes	Elizabeth Spadea John Spadea	Gretchen DeFrancesca Todd DeFrancesca
21	Kathryn Bailey Svenja Lessman	Lee West Susan Harrison	???
28	Holly Curell Ken Curell	Alison Barnes Matt Barnes	Kate Garitz Shawn Garitz