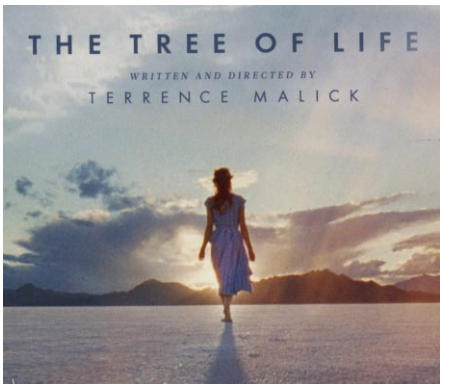
# FILM SPIRIT: Faith Journeys / St. Paul's Episcopal Cathedral / 2026 Calendar

The Second Monday of the Month / 5:15pm to 8:15pm / Guild Rooms A&B / Open to All




In July Film Spirit will provide a three-week series of selected movies of **Terrence Malick**, an American filmmaker whose work can draw us into a spirit of wonder and reflection. A Rhodes Scholar who could have built a career in many fields (he studied Philosophy at Harvard and Cambridge, while his father wanted him to earn a degree in Physics at MIT), his personal searching led him to the work of the German philosopher Martin Heidegger. After abandoning teaching, he decided the best way to delve into the concepts he wanted to explore and express would be best achieved through filmmaking.

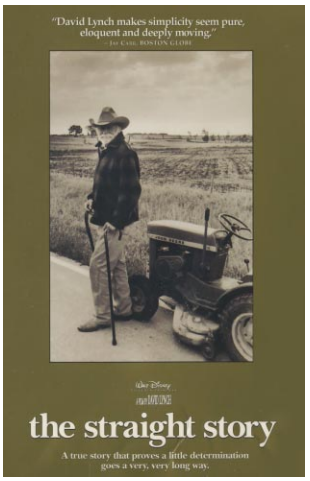
His nine feature films, plus a documentary, represent a filmography that is challenging, beautiful, richly layered, poetically elusive, and at times frustrating—ideal material for discussion! The three we will show represent the development he went through as a film artist and scriptwriter, and express (though often subtly) his personal journey of faith and his inspired searching of Biblical narratives and themes for meaning.

## All Things Shining: Three Films by Terrence Malick / July 6, 13 and 20 (consecutive Mondays)

**July 6** ***Days of Heaven*** An opportunistic man fleeing a manslaughter charge escapes to the wheat fields of Texas.

**July 13** ***Tree of Life*** The way of grace and the way of nature in a 1950's Texas town, drawn from the lessons of Job.

**July 20** ***To the Wonder*** Thematically centered on Mont St. Michael, "The Wonder", explores the pathways of grace.




## August—December: Journeys of Faith, Crossroads of Decision

The Bible is filled with journeys. From the restless searching of Abram to the final passage initiated by St. Paul's appeal to Rome, the people claimed and called by God were ceaselessly moving toward something promised, or seeking to recover something lost. The best of them chose to "walk humbly with their God." Jesus' journey from the manger to the cross guided him across many hundreds, if not thousands, of miles—with an endurance to always go "the second mile." Many Biblical travelers found that their journey led through "the valley of the shadow of death." If lighted by God's Spirit, it also led to life—to the "*way*, the truth, and the life."

As we watch these films, each with its own drama and challenges, we are invited to identify with this broadly human, deeply Christ-like, and powerfully life-affirming experience of stepping out on our own faith journeys.

**August 10** ***Perfect Days*** Sometimes a journey is one day's work shift—but even a thankless job can bring unique fulfillment.

**September 14** ***Far From Men*** A Frenchman, born and raised in Algeria, is tasked with delivering an Algerian prisoner for a murder trial.

**October 12** ***The Straight Story*** A stubborn man decides to reconcile with his long-estranged brother—but won't accept a ride.

**November 9** ***Tokyo Story*** In post-war Japan, an older couple visits Tokyo hoping to spend time with their grown children.

**December 14** ***The Nun's Story*** A young nun prays to serve her ministry in the Belgian Congo, but her journey is much longer.

*All films and dates are subject to change. These viewings are open to all, and we devote at least half an hour for each film for discussion (and our discussions are lively!). Any questions about this series can be addressed to David Stump at dwstump@icloud.com*

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