



Pentecost and Dandelions

On the day of Pentecost, the disciples were hidden away in yet another room. At this point in the story, Jesus has risen up after being crucified. He has been seen out and about. He has spent time with the disciples to reassure them that what they are seeing is accurate (stunningly accurate). And they are beginning to understand just who he is, how bizarrely amazing he is, but also what they are supposed to do next. So Jesus ascends out of their sight — this time for good. And they go hide in a room.

Being hidden in a room was evidently a disciple default skill. They did it a lot during this time.

But then on the day of Pentecost, a mighty wind blew in and changed everything. (The Holy Spirit has that kind of impact, btw.)

They found their voices — all kinds of voices — and their courage to step out beyond that room and go be the disciples of Christ.

Which got me to thinking about dandelions and us.

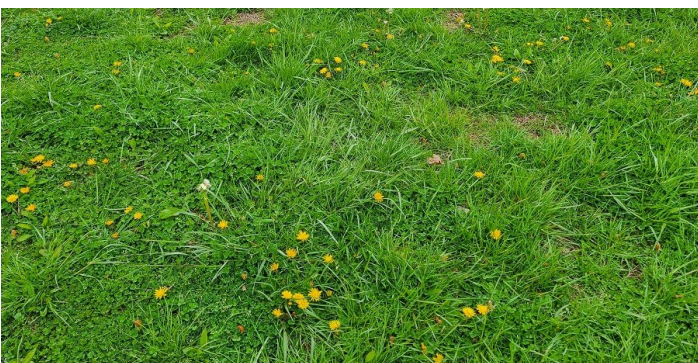
realized that some of them had gone to seed already — and were poised to be spread about by whatever glorious breeze came by.



I think that we are like those dandelions. Each one of us is glorious to behold. But at some point in our lives, as Christ's disciples, we are expected to be blown away and spread out planting seeds all around us, creating new possibilities for new life.

But it is hard when we are caught behind closed doors. Whether of our own creating or by external forces like viruses.

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On my daily walk, I kept walking past fields of glorious yellow dandelions. They really are beautiful even tho we do our best to discourage them on our own personal property. But as I looked closer, I

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So how do we continue to be blown about by the mighty wind of God? Because God knows the world really needs us to spread the seeds of faith and new growth.

I certainly don't know all the ways, but here are some suggestions, maybe:

Having personal prayer time — and then letting someone you know that you have prayed for them.

Greeting people with kind words — and ending with wishing them God's peace or blessings.

Invite a friend to read a book together — and share your thoughts from a faith perspective.

Find ways to do good works like leaving fun stuff on a door step — and a note from you that you are praying for their well-being and happiness.

These are a few ideas of things you may already be doing. You may have your own. But if our faith matters to us at all, and if our faith is a pathway to an amazing future — then please, go be a dandelion in any small or large way. God needs us and so does the world.

May the mighty wind of the Holy Spirit blow you courage, confidence, and creativity.

— Flo Ledyard, Rector

☞ Poem

Cocoon

Shared by Janet Aldrich

Pentecost (May 31, this year) is considered the Church's birthday. The Church, in a traditional sense, has been curled in a bit of cocoon-like state of late, but life is bustling underneath the quiet! Real cocoons and chrysalises act the same way: underneath the caterpillar undergoes a complete outside-in transformation to emerge with wings to fly. May we, like the Church, be born anew and grow wings to fly beyond our limited imaginations during and beyond this time of hunkering and cocooning

I lie
curled
in the green cocoon
of my garden
spun of sunlight
and leaves...
ready
to be born.

~~ by Moyra Caldecott



The Nope of it all!

by The Rev. Flo Ledyard, Rector

Hello Good Souls

We can open up further — but we will not open up further. That is the NOPE of it all.

Here's why.

It is true that the Governor of Maryland has said we can open up for on-site worship at 50% capacity, but the Mayor of Baltimore has said we are still in shutdown mode.

Regardless, here is why we at St Bartholomew's Church will stay in NOPE mode through the summer.

Safety is paramount. After consultation with scientists and medical peeps, it is clear that the knowledge about the virus is not sufficient to trust if and when it might reignite — and with energy.

So to remain very safe, 3 arenas would need to be addressed.

1. To open on site will require extensive sterilization cleaning methods - before each and every service.
2. We would need to have a wonderful group of people to welcome and then ensure that proper entry, seating, and other methods were enforced.

After measuring our square footage in the nave, we can only have about 50 people at a time.

There would have to be compassionate distancing as people line up to even enter through only one doorway. (And exit through another).

Masks would be essential.

Seating would have to be determined as people enter depending on the size of a family. Not much personal choice to be honest.

And if certain measures were not met, then people would be denied entry - much less if we exceed the allotted number on any given Sunday.

3. The Worship Service would be a bit different as well.

There could be no singing - ergo no choir. Only a cantor.

The distribution of communion would require lots of Purell, compassionate distancing, and perhaps some new techniques for receiving, much less giving, the elements of communion.

So after a lot of prayer, discussion, and thoughtful musings, the Vestry, Wardens, and I agree that we will remain in NOPE mode through the summer.

To reopen onsite worship requires extensive adjustments. Not just physically, but also liturgically. Nor does it appear to be assuredly safe.

AND our “zoom” worship appears to be more effective and awesome than what we could do on site under these circumstances.

Now, if something significant happens over the summer that might alter these considerations, we will be on it! And we certainly will readdress this for the fall.

But to protect you and those you love, to maintain worship that is unmasked, joyous and engaging, and to celebrate our whole community gathered — we will continue as we have been doing for the summer.

So yep— that is the NOPE of it all!

But I trust God is delightfully present with all of us no matter where we are each and every week. I delight that we can be “together” as a community. And the Vestry is preparing to reach out to those who have not found their way through Zoom to be with us on Sunday.

So St. B's remains strong and vibrant. An energetic worshipping community. A committed vehicle of God's grace and ministry. Even in NOPE mode. Which I think makes God smile and dance. It certainly does me.

Blessings, my sisters and brothers,
Flo

PS I suspect this is not the greatest news for everyone. So if you have any questions or concerns, for heaven's sake please let me know!

This Summer and Flo

After some wonderful yeasty and thoughtful discussion, last fall the Vestry and I agreed to the following:

In a couple of years, it will be time for another sabbatical for me. These are exquisite times for some extended rest, but also to relish even more attention to my spiritual life AND to read – lots of wonderful stuff about the Scriptures, theology and church dynamics, or whatever else will be helpful for our time together as a faith community.

In a supportive and hopefully wise alteration, instead of taking it all at once — I will take it in yearly partial doses. For this I am grateful.

So I will be gone from mid-June (my last Sunday will be June 14) to sometime toward the end of August — hopefully to return with some new insights and ideas.

In the meantime, I am delighted to say that The Reverend Thelma Smullen, The Reverend Ann Boyd, and The Reverend Carole Robinson Douglas will be with St B's for worship — each on their own days. Pastoral care will remain as thick as possible. Ministry opportunities will continue. And plans for the fall and a new program year will evolve as we continue to navigate this odd time.

As during previous sabbatical times, I know God will watch over all of us per usual. But mostly I am so thankful for a faith community that is strong and solid with exceptional leadership. Makes all kinds of things possible — including a bit of sabbath time this summer . . . for all of us in one way or another, I hope.

Flo

Vestry Highlights

At their May 19, 2020 meeting, the Vestry:

- Discussed Directives from Governor Hogan for COVID-19 Phased Openings
- Agreed on St. B's response to the Diocesan Guidelines
- Approved the Revised Treasurer's Quarterly Report
- Resolved to approve the expenditure for the slate roof repairs
- Received updates on new Sankofa Groups, Food Drive, Flea Market, and Summer Sabbaticals/Vacations

During this time of pandemic and quarantine, the Vestry decided at the May meeting to divide the monthly Vestry meeting into two meetings. Shorter meetings on Zoom are preferable than a longer meeting. The Vestry meetings will be on the third Tuesday of the month at 6:30 pm and the fourth Tuesday of the month at the same time.

The next meetings, scheduled June 16 and 23, will take place via Zoom, both beginning at 6:30 pm.

All Vestry meetings are open, and all members and friends are welcome to attend.

St. B's Choirs Keep Singing While Adapting

by Ted Davis

In the days of this global pandemic, we have learned that group singing is ill-advised, as singing only worsens the potential of a respiratory pathogen's spread. For those of us who love to sing together, this is beyond disheartening. As one recently-published article put it "There is a world of tears and grief in the choir world these days. . . and we are grieving. Heavily grieving."

Gathering and singing together "virtually" are far from the same. While it appears the singing is happening all at once, a virtual choir is actually a compiling of multiple separately-made videos. Each participant needs to be recorded individually, so there is no "togetherness" in its making. The experience is a far cry from the communal experience of singing together. Only in the final product does the "magic" happen. For the singers, it is delayed gratification at best.

But we in the choirs at St. Bartholomew's are using these tools to keep in touch and to keep, at least to some degree, singing 'together'. If you've been



watching recent Zoom liturgies on Sundays, you have seen some of the work that has been ongoing, as virtual choirs have made contributions to several of these services. And we 'gather' weekly on Zoom ourselves.

For us, these efforts feel, to put it mildly, strange. One writer has compared this time for choirs as akin to the time ancient Israel was in exile; "how can we sing the Lord's song in a strange land?" (Psalm 137:4) But sing (and meet) we do, as best we can, with confident anticipation of the day we can gather in person again.

— Ted is St. B's Organist and Choirmaster

Storied Favorites — with organist Ted Davis

On Sunday, June 14 at 7:00 pm, join us on YouTube Live for a virtual concert of beloved orchestral masterpieces performed on St. Bartholomew's magnificent Casavant-Storey organ. The program will feature works originally created to tell epic tales, including Rossini's *William Tell Overture* (adapted for organ by Edwin Lemare) and Prokofiev's *Peter and the Wolf* (adapted for organ by Ted Davis). Not music for liturgy! Just for fun!

Organist Ted Davis will be joined by Louisa Davis (who will be the narrator for *Peter and the Wolf*). Add it to your calendars, and share the news with our announcement on Facebook.

This is not an in-person event. Please join by viewing on YouTube. Current information, including a "tune-in" link, will be posted on the church web page.

Gathering the Saints: Zoom Church 2020

by Bryan MacKay

One joyous outcome of Zoom church 2020 at St Bartholomew's is that folks who have moved away from the Baltimore metro area, or have other connections despite living at a distance, have now had the opportunity to reconnect.

Sandy and Mike Giangrande moved to Port Clinton, Ohio a few years ago. They attend a tiny church without resources for on-line worship. They have found Zoom church at St. B's to be "a tangible comfort," "a way to maintain a bridge amidst an air of uncertainty," and a wonderful way "to connect with folks we know." They particularly enjoyed seeing the Palm Sunday procession, and Ted's concert.

Athena Richardson now lives in Birmingham, Alabama after attending St. B's from 2012 to 2016. She said, "Being able to connect with St. B's has meant everything" and "listening to Rev. Flo's sermons has been a real treat." Athena sang with the choir when she was here, and now does so again virtually. Athena quoted St. Augustine: "Those who sing pray twice." "With my current choir on hiatus, the opportunity to sing once again with St. B's has been a blessing. The hymn on Easter Sunday brought tears to my eyes."

Bonita and Don DeVale, John's parents, live in Aurora, Illinois. "We have attended St B's when visiting and always enjoyed the service," and they have now been joining in virtually. They said they "love the enthusiasm of the rector and the friendly and welcoming attitude of the people," as well as "the solid homilies." "We are also quite taken by Ted's talents."

Gretta Estey attended St B's for about 15 years before moving to Mitchellville, Maryland more than two years ago. She noted that, "St. B's still feels like home." She especially values "hearing Flo preach, hearing the voices of people whom I've known for so very long, and sharing the Agape meal." Gretta also likes "the messages to and from people in the chat time before the service and at the Peace." She enjoys "continuing to be a real part of St. B's as a vibrant faith community"; it gives her "a real sense of belonging."

Another friend of long standing of St. B's is Katherine Armentrout. Katherine served us as Deacon about 15 years ago, and continues to attend and co-lead the annual women's retreat. She and husband Scott moved to north Georgia to be closer to family. Katherine mentioned that the shutdown of her local church had "left her starving;" pre-recorded services seemed "sterile." She said, "There is nothing quite like St. B's" and Zoom church has been "remarkable and means the world to me." She loves "the sense of immediacy, being in community" and "the Eucharist, watching the consecration." Ted's music is "heart filling."

I, too, find Zoom church so valuable in both staying connected and reconnecting with people I know and love in this time of pandemic. So, do you know anyone who might enjoy virtually worshipping with us? Be sure to invite them! You never know what a blessing it might be in their lives during this difficult period. And as we celebrate so joyously every Sunday morning, "Alleluia!!"

— Bryan is Chair of the Newcomers' Committee

Congratulations, Graduates!!!

Joshua Evans, stepson of Michael Haynie, graduated from Western School of Technology in May. Josh is going to Millersville University of Pennsylvania where he will major in Graphic Design and play football.

Aaron Haynie, son of Michael Haynie and grandson of Inez Haynie Dodson, graduated from the University of Rochester with a Bachelor of Science degree in Finance. Aaron is interviewing with a couple of investment banking firms as an investment counselor and will also be applying to graduate school in the very near future.

Valerie Nicole Lee, granddaughter of Connie and Pete Lee, graduated from UMBC in May with a Bachelor of Science degree in Biology Science and a minor in Environmental Science. She is interested in being an aquarist for animals.

Rebeca (Becca) MacDonald, daughter of Saville Janney and Luis MacDonald and sister of Maggie MacDonald, is graduating from McDaniel College in Westminster with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Social Work. Becca hopes to work with kids.

Ethan Pound, son of Kevin and Melissa Pound and brother of Luke, Ethan, and Henry, is graduating from Baltimore School for the Arts on June 11. He's headed to Oberlin Conservatory this Fall where he will major in Trombone Performance and pursue additional interests in jazz, composition, and more.

Justin Rose, son of Dana and David Rose and brother of Christopher, received his Bachelor of Science degree in Sociology-Anthropology with a Concentration in Criminal Justice and Minor in African and African American Studies from Towson University in May. Justin plans to attend graduate school to obtain his Masters Degree in Social Work.

Koran Savoy, grandson of Michael Haynie and great-grandson Inez Haynie Dodson, graduated from Barrie School in May. He will be attending McDaniel College in Westminster where he will be playing basketball. He has not yet determined his major.

Ellie Schumacher, daughter of Sarah Chard and John Schumacher and sister of Meg Schumacher, is graduating from Catonsville High School this month. She will be attending Bryn Mawr College in the fall, where she plans to study Math.





Covid-19
won't stop
St B's
philatelist
from
meeting!



Praying During Stressful Times

by *Glorius M. Sullivan*

“Almighty and ever living God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth, hear our prayers for this parish family. Strengthen the faithful, arouse the careless, and restore the penitent. Grant us all things necessary for our common life, and bring us all to be of one heart and mind within your holy Church; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.” (BCP, p. 817)

This is the prayer “For the Parish” in the Book of Common Prayer – a prayer for our Parish family – for all of us. Members of the Margaret Rollo Chapter of The Order of the Daughters of the King pray each day, and often many times a day, for families, for friends, neighbors, colleagues, strangers, those in authority, for those needs known to us and those needs unknown to us – for “all things necessary for our common life.” Prayers are as necessary as breathing – they are essential.

We welcome your special prayer requests which can be added to our prayers whenever you want us to pray for and with you. You can call (410-644-8110) or email (chgl@verizon.net) your prayer requests to me with the subject line “DOK Prayer Request.” As always, your prayer requests will be held in confidence by our Daughters.

These are stressful times – dealing with the COVID-19 virus outbreak – with new rules to keep us safe, stay at home orders and separation from loved ones, widespread unemployment and economic hardships,

food distribution lines, increased caring for our neighbors in need – changes that have impacted all of our lives. We all have seen and felt how different these past few months have been.

But one thing has not changed – God is with us. I recently found this prayer by an unknown author and want to share it with you.

God is in every tomorrow,
Therefore I live for today;
Certain of finding at sunrise
Guidance and strength for the day.

Power for each moment of weakness,
Hope for each moment of pain.
Comfort for every sorrow,
Sunshine and joy after rain.

God is in every tomorrow.
Planning for you and for me.
Even in the dark I will follow,
Trust where my eyes cannot see.

Stilled by His promise of blessing,
Soothed by the touch of His hand.
Confident in His protection,
Knowing my life-path is planned.

God is unchanged. God is with us – all the time, in all the ways we’ll ever need. Always.

— *Glorius is President of the Margaret Rollo Chapter of the Daughters of the King*

Thank You, Quilters!



The African American Quilters of Baltimore is one of the groups that normally meets in the Parish House. When the need for face masks became evident, we asked the group if they might be willing to make some face masks for our 40 West volunteers and clients, and for the parents of inpatients at The Kennedy Krieger Institute.

Thank you, quilters, for the beautiful face masks you created for us and our neighbors!



GROUP SCOOP

Get Ready Summer Youth Events!

St. B's D-Group, for those in grades 6—12, will continue to meet during the summer! We'll meet every other Sunday for a game, dinner, and check in, so stay tuned for more information. Our meetings take place via Zoom from 5:00 to 6:30 pm. Please contact Youth Group Leaders Kathie or Marty Clark (peaceclark1@gmail.com) for the link to join. Gather for fun, fellowship and faith. Invite a friend!



Silly
Zoom
fun!



Weed and Worship: A New Idea to Tend God's Garden

by Celeste Thurston and John White

We are going to try “weed and worship” on Sunday morning. Not to exceed 8 people, please schedule time through Celeste at jazzedupct@comcast.net. On beautiful Sundays we will meet to weed a bit at 8:00 am, then we can worship on our phones outside. There are benches in the Bishop's Garden, in front of the columbarium, and on either side of the Church doors, the Parish House front porch, and the Parish House steps, so we can build in safe distancing. You are also welcomed to weed for a limited time and then drive home to worship. Because of Covid-19, we will not supply food, but please feel free to pack a small cooler with your communion supplies or a water to keep hydrated. We will have a large water jug from which you can refill your own container.



For the Big Gardening months we will be looking for tips to help create enjoyable gardens all season long. Here are some useful Garden Tips from “Trowel and Error,” “The Gardener’s Almanac,” and “The Curious Gardener’s Almanac”:

If you are planting a new tree or shrub, you can take an old plastic gallon milk jug, poke holes in it, and bury its neck exposed near the roots. Then, when you pour water into the jug, it gets to the root system.

Gertrude Jekyll, who was a famous English gardener, suggests painting flat stones or shells as markers for plant species. So if you are home with extra time, this would be a great and useful activity.

Another plant marker idea is with old miniblinds. You can cut the slates in half and use paint or a marker to label them.

Rose Tonic— good for black spot or powdery mildew: 2 tsp baking soda, 2 qts of water, and ½ tsp liquid soap or Murphy’s Oil Soap. Put it in a spray bottle and shake before each use.

Ants, Ants, Ants: Tis the season! Spray ant routes with apple cider vinegar. It covers the pheromone tracks so they can’t find their way back to their favorite foraging sites.

Or if you have old photo or small medicine containers, poke ant sized holes in the lid. Create a mixture of 10 tsp corn or maple syrup with 1 tsp borax, put a dab of the mixture in the small canisters, and place in areas frequented by ants to draw them away from your home.

Weed and Worship: A New Idea to Tend God's Garden (*continued*)

Powdery mildew potions include garlic spray (mix 1 gallon of water and 1 ¼ cups garlic powder) or spicy cinnamon spray (mix ¼ tsp cinnamon powder and 1 qt water). In both cases, pour the mixture into a spray bottle and drench both sides of the leaves early in the day before it gets hot.

Deer tips: plant smelly plants! Deer like a bland diet, so add aromatic plants like sage, mints, or lemon balm. Deer resistant plantings include salvias, which come in a big variety and can be very ornamental. Monarda (bee balm), echinacea (coneflower), ornamental onion bulbs (allium), daffodils, and grape hyacinths are other good choices.

From “The Gardeners Almanac” — the astrological garden. We will add a few of these each month.

Gemini — they play both sides of their garden bed and approach their gardens as problems to be solved. The results are interesting, with gardens that may change from year to year: one summer all exotic herbs, the next a shift to 10 varieties of lupines. Geminis may create gardens to contain their conflicting impulses: one section exhibiting yellow calla lilies flanked by a rise of blue heather, another section all lettuce and peas.

Cancer — gardeners coddle and protect their plants. They never forget bird netting and mesh to protect butterfly trees throughout the winter. Climbing roses and clematis are guaranteed the support of walls. Flower beds are usually near the house, and pastel geraniums in window boxes signal a love for domestic security. Cancer gardeners like to fertilize their soil. They may overwater their cauliflower in a zeal to nourish. Incorporating a round garden with white digitalis and white lilies in the landscape, Cancers tread with care in moonlit spaces.

— Celeste and John are Co-chairs of the Landscape Committee

Financial Position as of April 30, 2020

— Financial information is provided by John Schroeder, Treasurer

April 30, 2020	Current Month	Current Month	Year to Date	Year to Date
	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget
Total Income	58,299.79	47,066.67	220,624.94	188,266.64
Total Expenses	(48,807.94)	(51,101.20)	(199,860.63)	(204,404.86)
Difference	9,491.85	(4,034.53)	20,764.31	(16,138.22)

Outreach Is Still Active

by David Mountain and Kim Flash

Even during the stay-at-home and safe-at-home conditions of the COVID-19 pandemic, Outreach at Saint Bartholomew's continues to find ways to serve.

Food Drive for 40 West

Like many organizations that provide food for clients, the 40 West Assistance and Referral Center has seen a surge in requests for food. During the week of May 18-22, Outreach sponsored a food drive to help restock their pantry. Thanks to your efforts and generosity, we were able to collect **1787 pounds** of food for this organization!

AND, we get to do this again the week of June 15. We invite you to bring food donations for drop-off at St. B's from 3:00 to 5:00 pm, Monday through Friday. Stay tuned for an all-parish email with more details.

Don't forget the people we are relying on

Speaking of thanks, we continue to ask people to send out thank you notes to the workers in our neighborhoods and communities who are on the front lines. Health care employees, grocers, first responders, and our public-sector employees have all "stayed the course" to keep us safe, healthy, and providing critical services. We are asking everyone to commit to sending out one letter per week.

Flea Market

This is the largest fundraiser for Outreach, and a much anticipated activity in the local community for decades. The current crisis has disrupted normal planning, but a small group of people (Rev. Flo, Celeste Thurston, Mary Helen Sprecher, Daphne Cover, Dave Mountain, and Kim Flash) has been meeting and developing a variety of options for continuing this glorious event. Although no definitive decisions have been made, we will keep you informed as our conversation progresses.

— Dave (davidjmountain@iecc.org) and Kim (keflash7@gmail.com)
are Co-chairs of the Outreach Committee

Around the Neighborhood

by Bonnie Kutch

I had the pleasure of a short conversation (masked and observing social distancing, of course) with Kevin Mason, Program Director of My Brother's Keeper. I was dropping off a few items from their "Needs List" that I had picked up while grocery shopping. I was taken aback by the profuse level of gratitude that Mr. Mason expressed for such a small donation. He went on to say how moved the staff has been by everyone's generosity. He seemed aware that St. Bartholomew's is publishing the list of items that they need and acknowledged several donations that have come from our community.

My Brother's Keeper had provided a hot lunch on-site, six days a week, for the Irvington community for many years. This past March, in response to the Stay-At-Home guidelines, that was changed to a bag lunch for pick-up service.

You may remember that St. Bartholomew's has a long history of reaching out to our neighbors through My Brother's Keeper. For years, parishioners volunteered with the lunch service there. In 2017, the family of Ed Warfield, Jr. spearheaded a project where St. Bartholomew's prepped, cooked, and served a hot lunch on one Saturday at month at My Brother's Keeper. Another project assembled packages of donated toiletries and supplied them for distribution at MBK. Last year, Outreach sponsored two new projects – one to cook casseroles which were frozen and delivered to support MBK's lunch service; the second provided volunteers on the first Saturday of each month to help with preparing and serving lunch on-site. Both of these projects are on hold.

Mr. Mason said that the need in the community remains high. Food donations go out of the door almost as quickly as they come in. He said that he feels honored to be able to continue to do this work and to be of service to the Irvington Community, our neighbors.

BTW – there is a need for grocery bags. In addition to packed lunches, many times they provide additional food items to supplement those meals. As an example, he mentioned an increase in the number of grandparents that are showing up with their grandchildren. They try to provide extra food for these and other families, to fill the gap in resources. If you have extra clean but used plastic or paper bags from your grocery shopping, consider saving them up and dropping them off at My Brother's Keeper.

My Brother's Keeper is located at 4207 Frederick Avenue, Baltimore, 21229. Please remember that any donations should be brought to the side door on S. Augusta Avenue, along the driveway. There is a doorbell with speaker there – be patient and someone will come to the door. If you go to the front door, there may not be staff in that part of the building able to answer and greet you. If you wish to call ahead to ensure someone is there – 410-644-3194.

Just sharing the heartfelt thank you that I received with all of you. Continue to look for the updated My Brother's Keeper Need List in our weekly "What's Happening" bulletin.

— *Bonnie is a member the Casserole Ministry Team for My Brother's Keeper*

What's Happening at 40 West?

Volunteer Appreciation Month, One Month Late!

by Peggy McMillan

Beginning in May, 40 West volunteers have been able to offer weekly outdoor food distributions in the St. Bartholomew parking lot. Each week after the prior week's food event, we review what went well and what needs to be improved. Then we implement the needed changes at the next food distribution.

At each food distribution, 40 West has provided a minimum of 20 – 30 pounds of food per household to 100 or more households. The poundage varies by the programs: TEFAP (The Emergency Food Assistance Program); Pantry on the Go (fresh produce); 40 West pantry items; and MEFP (Maryland Emergency Food Program). We are serving approximately 400 families a month, in comparison to serving approximately 100 to 130 families prior to COVID-19.

But being able to do this has been contingent upon working as a team. 40 West has a top-notch team organizing these events. Glorius Sullivan, Chairman of the 40 West Board and herself a volunteer, has been the lead advocate and organizer extraordinaire. She also applies for grants to pay for food and other items 40 West purchases.

Susan Lundin is the Food Pantry Coordinator. She orders the food from the Maryland Food Bank with a vision of the food bags she wishes to create. She shops for the deals and takes advantage of them, finding spiral cut, honey baked hams, whole turkeys, and other savory items. She cares about providing quality items that, when put together, can make many nutritious meals. Susan also obtained about 50 hand-sewn masks for our clientele.

Barbara Knauf works with Susan Lundin on food selection. She is also in charge of organizing the packing of the food bags prior to each event. She sewed masks for the 40 West volunteers prior to the first food distribution during the pandemic.

Gretchen Parry is captain of the delivery department. She and several other people drive to the food bank, check the ordered food for accuracy, resolve any issues, and then pack several thousand pounds of food in their trucks and cars to transport it to 40 West, where they unpack it!

John DeVale provides technology support to 40 West. He creates and installs programs, installs computers and printers, brainstorms problems, and resolves program glitches. Thank you, John!

Dave Murray has been busy in the food pantry repairing walls and painting. Through his creative use of paint and paint tape, he has created a warm ambience in the 40 West offices. Chuck Sullivan, Glorius Sullivan's husband, has done numerous repair jobs, put together shelving units and assorted tasks to make 40 West comfortable.

Volunteers at the food distributions complete this picture. This spring, 40 West has had numerous volunteers from St. Bartholomew's, 40 West itself, and 8 – 10 each week from the Maryland Food Bank. People from Towson, Locust Point, Catonsville, Glen Burnie, Crofton, all over Baltimore and the Baltimore region have offered their time and service to ensure that 40 West stayed open and provided food to those in need during COVID-19.

Thank you all. Thank you to the 40 West Board, thank you to St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church, thanks to the Outreach Committee for organizing a food drive. Happy (Belated) Volunteer Appreciation Month in May. You (plural) rock!

— Peggy is Director of the 40 West Assistance and Referral Center

Hope Harbor Updates

by Anna M. Williams

Greetings:

I hope you and your family are safe during this time. These are different times but we continue to move forward and serve families and members of the community. On May 2nd we had a dynamic virtual workshop on Self-Care. The speaker was extremely knowledgeable and engaging. I could have listened to her for hours. We hope to have her return in the near future to present on another topic. We will also have other virtual workshops and all are welcome to attend. Please visit our Facebook page for updates. We would love to have you as a friend.

As many of you know, we were going to have our tea this year during the Mother's Day weekend. But because of the virus and social distancing we had to postpone it. It is now rescheduled for October, although we are unsure if we will be able to have it at all. We will provide you with updates on an ongoing basis.

Because we have not been able to have our fundraisers due to social distancing guidelines (which is one way we raise money to support our work), we

have a virtual giving campaign that will be available until the end of June. If you would like to make a donation, the link is <https://www.mightycause.com/event/Ua52qfhopeharbor>. No donation is too small. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

Would you like to find out more about Hope Harbor? Go to our website-www.hopeharborbaltimore.org. We have recently uploaded our annual report for 2019. Find out about the wonderful people that serve on the board and read about the work we do on a daily basis.

If you would like to find out more about Hope Harbor and interested in possibly volunteering as a workshop presenter or working directly with our partners, please reach out to Anna M. Williams at 443-769-2346 or hopeharbor1@yahoo.com.

Thank you and Stay Well.

— Anna is Director of Resources and Program
for Hope Harbor

Hope Harbor Workshops

by Sheila Drummond-Camm

Our last workshop on self-care was a huge success. It was facilitated by Cinnamon Brown, Founder and CEO of Victorious Attitudes for Everyday Life. Cinnamon guided us through two hours of different ways to take care of our social, emotional, spiritual, and physical health. Everyone who attended got something out of it, just for them. The group unanimously suggested we have her back for another session. As one participant stated, "It was not what I expected, but I got what I needed." Be sure and join us in June when we hope to have Cinnamon return for another session.

On May 22, we offered a craft workshop from Gabby's Learning Channel for those families who were looking for a fun activity for their kids while they are home all day.

We have two sessions planned in June, hopefully another one with Cinnamon Brown and a chance to cook together. Stay tuned for the flyers.

— Sheila is Hope Harbor's Family Outreach Worker

A Blazing Beacon Moment

We have an awesome Vision Statement. We say it on Sundays to remind ourselves and God that we get it.

We will, with God's help, be a vibrant faith community that is a blazing beacon of God's transforming love.

Might be easy to think that it is not very pertinent right now during this time of separation. Not so. In fact, our vision for us is just as important as it has ever been. AND there are stories abounding of blazing beacon moments. So let's share them. One a month in this new section of *The Apostle*.

This month our Deacon Neva has a wonderful story.

I invite you to email Maggie (mcaldwell@stbs-md.org) with another one that we can share next month. Come on, everyone. Let's celebrate abounding Blazing Beacon moments.

— Flo Ledyard, Rector

Good Neighbors and the 40 West Food Drive

by The Rev. Neva Brown

A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another.

John 13:34

I am thankful for the kindness of others. When I heard about the need to replenish the 40 West pantry to serve the community during this pandemic (COVID-19), I thought about how I can reach out to our neighbors to help. I only contacted a small number, those who live next to us on the right and the left and directly across from us, and three others in the nearby community. To accommodate the collection and to keep social distancing, I informed our neighbors that a bag would be placed at the end of the driveway and asked them to donate at least one or two canned goods. I also sent to each one by text a copy of the message for the food drive. On Sunday morning, I placed the bag at the driveway, a Trader Joe's brown bag, covered with a plastic bag to protect from the weather, with two flyers. Inside of the bag for weight was a large can of baked beans.

Sunday evening, when I went to pick up the bag to place it in the car, to my surprise and dismay the bag was gone. I walked around the property to see if it was somewhere else, but no bag. I just could not imagine why someone would take the bag; however, I said, I hope they needed the beans in the bag. I was too quick to think it was taken when I read a text message from our neighbors across the street. They picked up the bag to fill it. Not what I was expecting, however, grateful for their kindness and offer to help. Thanks to their kindness, the three adult sisters solicited help from the people they work with and not only filled my small bag but added other bags of non-perishable items. This, along with the kindness of two other neighbors who live next to us who went to Costco to buy items for the drive, we now have a donation to help replenish the 40 West Food Pantry. At another time, remind me to tell you about these neighbors; there is a back story to what this account demonstrates of what it truly means to love one another.

Let us go forth to Love and Serve the Lord. Alleluia, Alleluia.

— Neva is St. B's Deacon





Lord, Hear Our Prayer

Your prayers are requested for members and friends of St. B's ...

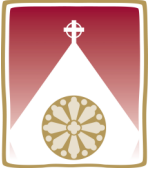
Lucy Marshall; Doris Haughey; Vince Marsiglia;; Donna Cartwright; Janet Churchill; David Schneider; Shirley Nathan Pulliam; Wyvetta Dupree; Tony Creek; Mike Knudsen; Lib Shipley; Irene Hardy; Lillian Thomas; Theresa Sexton; Celia Vismale; Patrick Mellin; Ray Zeigler; Larry Brown; Sandra DeSilva; Tiger Watts; Peter Griffin; Jon Davis; David Chevront; Young Sam; Michelle Haynie Madison; Kate Henshall; Mary Warfield; Susan Lundin; Adrienne Barnes; Yogesh Patel; Amanda Harris and Marilyn and Ben Smith; Mary Smallman; Earl Ruley; 40 West Assistance and Referral Center Clients; Hope Harbor partner families; Heidi; Theresa Thomas; Meg and Shaun; Kathy and Andy; Angel; John and Jean; Allen; James Cooper; Kathie Goblirsch; Sherry McCollum; Steven Coffman; Pushpa Sokhey; Lance Perry; Anna Miller; Sue Goodall; Jimmy, Terry, and Ashley Beauford; Hyun Brackens, Elizabeth Jefferson; William Edmonds; Lynn Calhoun; Amanda Ash Freeland; Cheryl Murdock; Kyle Yoder; Warren Pulliam; Bernie Feely; Camille Madison Robinson; Brianna; Aminata Kabia; Alma Cooper and Dianné Keeling; Clay Shiflet; Jackie and Romaine Phillips; Ashby Thompson; Riley Goddard and her family; Clarice Patterson; Brian and Marcia Legister; Junius Goode; Joretha Langley; Dick Ridenour; Barbara Blackwell; Arlyce Burton; Kimberley McLean; Fran Hager; Mary Demory; Gerald Haynie; Mary McMearn; Andrea Barnard; those affected by the coronavirus; those in our midst who are un- or under-employed & the homeless; AND any others we name at this time.

**Newsletter
DEADLINE**

**The deadline for the Summer issue of
The Apostle is Monday, June 15.**

Please e-mail articles to mcaldwell@stbs-md.org.

To submit typewritten or handwritten material,
place it in Maggie Caldwell's mailbox outside of the Church Office.
All articles must include a contact name and email or phone number.
Publication of *The Apostle* is on the last Sunday of the month.



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☞ Worship & Christian Formation ☜

Sunday Worship & Formation

Holy Eucharist at 8:00 am and 10:30 am

Sunday Christian Formation

Faith Forum for Adults and Older Youth: 9:15—10:15 am in the Parish House

(During Faith Forum, the Cribbery will be open for children up through grade 5.)

Children's Word for Children Age 3 (by 09/01) — Grade 1: during the 10:30 am service; meet in the Chapel.

Children's Word for Children Grades 2—5: during the 10:30 am service; meet in the Parish House.

Youth Group for Grades 6—12: Meet in the Youth House on Sundays from 5:00—6:30 pm.

During Sunday Worship, **childcare** is available for children up to age 5 in the Parish House
from 10:00 am-12:15 pm.

Weekday Worship & Formation

Noonday Prayer is said every weekday and Saturdays at 12 noon in the Chapel.

An interfaith **Christian meditation** group meets Mondays in the Chapel at 7:30 pm.

For more information about our worship or programs, please contact us at 410-945-7263 or
office@stbs-md.org or visit www.stbs-md.org.