



The APOSTLE

St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church ... A Christian Community of open minds, open hearts, and open arms.

October 2020

A SHADOW

On our daily walk this summer, I looked down and noticed Brook's and my shadows.



I thought hers was delightful and sweet. Mine — more like the Fee Fi Fo Fum variety. Kinda unnerving to be honest.

But it did get me to thinking about how shadows are often bigger and more formidable than we normally appear. I think that is pretty cool (except for the fee-fi-fo-fum part). Imagine if we think of ourselves as bigger than we are. That we can cast our presence farther than we think. That we are not always limited by our actual size and stature.

Which got me to thinking about how do we cast our shadows as children of God.

I do think that God hopes we will understand that we are capable of being bigger than we think, of being more present than we assume and more out there than we consider. I think God expects us to think beyond our limitations and to see bigger opportunities and to stretch to make them happen.

So how do you allow yourself to be bigger than you assume? How do you think about being and doing things that stretch you beyond your perceived or assumed limitations? How far will you let your shadow be cast?

Today's world needs our determination to stretch beyond our limits, to be a bigger presence so we can bring the Word of God and her presence into a world so sadly in need of it. The world is enough of a mess at the moment that our shadow capacity is really needed. The world needs our compassion but also our clarity about what is just and in accordance with the God of our faith and trust. There are a ton of opportunities even if we are limited and restricted

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☞ A Shadow

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thanks to a virus. Because the chance to do something awesome is also right out there if we just stretch ourselves in new and amazing ways.

So how do we cast our shadow beyond our limits? Only if the Son is behind us. Literally. *(That is not a misspelling btw of sun!)*

I cannot stretch myself without knowing that Jesus is behind me. Jesus is the one who can make my shadow

as big as possible. And I know that our shadow as a parish can be amazingly huge if we cast together.

So I hope you will think about the Son behind you, think of a direction to cast your shadow, invite others to join you — and then actually creatively do it! Imagine the stories we will share.

— Flo Ledyard, Rector

☞ Worship

Zooming Together for Worship at St. B's

Please join us on Zoom each Sunday morning at 10:00 am. Here's how:

This is the link

<https://zoom.us/j/7641738777?pwd=d05KWmJPZ0ZZaHlmUlpRK2NiOFp6UT09>.

or you can go to your own Zoom page and use this info:

The Meeting ID: 764 173 8777

The password: 703085

or you can call in using this number: (646)558-8656.

AND, you can come as early as 9:00 am to have some fun at our Coffee Hour.

“Take Out at St. B's”

On Saturday, October 3, from 2:30 to 3:30 pm, we will once again be serving “Take Out at St. B's.” If you would like to be able to have Eucharist the next day during worship, please feel free to stop by the Church, and, at the red back door, someone will be there to greet you and give you the communion kits you need, as well as a piece of paper explaining how to care for them.

The Blessing of the Animals

Bring yourself and your pets to St. Bartholomew's Annual Blessing of the Animals Service on Saturday, October 4 at 4:00 pm in the Courtyard between the Parish House and the Church (weather permitting).

Invite your friends and their animals — everyone is welcome!

Please remember to wear a face covering and observe compassionate distancing.



Remembering the Departed on All Saints' Day



Have you lost someone you love over the past year?

Every year during our celebration of All Saints' Day (this year on Sunday, November 1), we pray for all of those near and dear to us who departed this life since the previous All Saints' celebration on November 3, 2019.

To add someone to our remembrance, contact the Church Office (410-945-7263 or office@stbs-md.org) with the names you would like to have read by no later than Sunday, October 25.

Miracle of a Morning

Shared by Janet Aldrich

Amanda Gorman, a 22-year-old, African American woman, was bestowed the honor of becoming the new Young Poet Laureate last year. In April of this year she composed a stellar portrayal of our inner and outer lives during the pandemic. I love her play on words in the first stanza with “mourning” and “morning,” which reminds me of the resurrection, along with that of the fifth stanza, “We ignite not in the light, but in the lack thereof...”. The paradoxes within this piece are profound and proficuous (“profitable, advantageous, useful”). Her advice in the last stanza would certainly be Jesus’s. Heed it!

I thought I'd awaken to a world in mourning.
Heavy clouds crowding, a society storming.
But there's something different on this golden
morning.
Something magical in the sunlight, wide and
warming.

I see a dad with a stroller taking a jog.
Across the street, a bright-eyed girl chases her dog.
A grandma on a porch fingers her rosaries.
She grins as her young neighbor brings her
groceries.

While we might feel small, separate, and all alone,
Our people have never been more closely tethered.
The question isn't if we will weather this unknown,
But how we will weather this unknown together.
So on this meaningful morn, we mourn and we
mend.
Like light, we can't be broken, even when we
bend.

As one, we will defeat both despair and disease.
We stand with healthcare heroes and all
employees;
With families, libraries, schools, waiters, artists;
Businesses, restaurants, and hospitals hit hardest.

We ignite not in the light, but in lack thereof,
For it is in loss that we truly learn to love.
In this chaos, we will discover clarity.
In suffering, we must find solidarity.
For it's our grief that gives us our gratitude,
Shows us how to find hope, if we ever lose it.
So ensure that this ache wasn't endured in vain:
Do not ignore the pain. Give it purpose. Use it.

Read children's books, dance alone to DJ music.
Know that this distance will make our hearts grow
fonder.

From a wave of woes our world will emerge
stronger.

We'll observe how the burdens braved by
humankind

Are also the moments that make us humans kind;
Let every dawn find us courageous, brought closer;
Heeding the light before the fight is over.
When this ends, we'll smile sweetly, finally seeing
In testing times, we became the best of beings.

~~ Amanda Gorman

Vestry Highlights

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

At their meeting on September 15, 2020, (only one meeting this month), meeting, the Vestry:

- Discussed and planned the agenda for Annual Meeting
- Discussed options for the October Vestry Retreat

The Vestry now normally meets via Zoom on the third and fourth Tuesdays of the month.

The October meeting, however, is scheduled to take place during the Vestry Retreat.

The next set of regular meetings, scheduled on November 17 and 24, 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.

Taking Care of Diocesan Business

by Anthony Pitts

The 236th Convention of The Diocese of Maryland met on Saturday, September 12.

This year's convention had a different feel. It was the first Zoom convention, with a quorum of 21 in attendance at the Diocese of Maryland on University Parkway in Baltimore. From the moment I walked into the building I felt that this would be a historic gathering.

The convention's original date was pushed into the fall because of a deadly sickness that has taken over 200,000 lives in this country, requiring all of us to 'meet' in separate rooms, and changed the 'face' of our country by requiring distance and masks wherever we go.

The convention also was only one day this year, which required more focus as the nominations for offices were done prior to the convention date with voting on the resolutions done during the convention.

I was directed to an office on the second floor where I set up my computer, closed the door, and waited...alone. The sign of the times, missing the

large, round table where we sat last year at the Turf Valley Convention Center, members of at least four different congregations, enjoying each other.

Morning prayer started at 9:00 am, and a powerful sermon about the power of 2020 Vision was delivered by The Right Reverend Robert W. Ihloff. Bishop Sutton's address followed with his topic "Lamentations."

Voting on several resolutions followed, led by The Reverend Eddie Blue, the chairman of the Resolution Committee, including pay, sabbatical leave, revision to Canon 1-400 (reducing the number of Diocesan Council meetings to four per year), moving the Convention to the Fall, a resolution on anti-Semitism and Palestinian Christians, and the Resolution on Reparations. All resolutions were passed.

I wish to thank the Convention organizers for their efforts in keeping us safe during these unprecedented times.

— Anthony is St. B's Lay Delegate

An Annual Meeting — Finally!

by Flo Ledyard

We have an actual “annual congregational meeting” – every year. It is part of how we stay connected about our ministry as a parish, hear updates, elect new Vestry members, and have the chance to share thoughts and questions during an open mic session. It is a pretty cool event and incredibly important as a Parish Church.

Normally this happens in the spring. Only last spring, we were shut down on site and massively trying to figure out how to actually stay connected in new ways.

Months later, we are doing OK. Thanks to Zoom, a Rector’s technological upgrade as a human being, and the wonderful techies in our parish — as well as your ability as a congregation to have a sense of humor and unbelievable patience — we are doing OK, if not occasionally pretty great.

And now we can finally have our Annual Meeting! So, on October 18 we will meet after worship to do just that.

Worship will start at 9:30 am that Sunday.

The Annual Meeting will begin at 11:00 am.

(There will be separate Zoom links emailed to everyone.)

The Annual Reports Booklet will be mailed to everyone as well as posted on our website. It will include the agenda for the meeting, all our various annual reports on the amazing ministries we do at St B’s as well as the slate for the Vestry election.

We will gather thanks to Zoom, vote on stuff, hear certain reports, elect new Vestry members and have our normal open mic time.

So I hope you will join us. It really is a pretty important part of our governance as a parish.

(And yes, I am very aware of a football game. Promise.)
☺

— Your kinda technologically upgraded Rector, Flo



Vestry Nominees

Vestry Nominees

Every year at our Annual Meeting, we elect up to 6 new Vestry members: 4 full members for 3-year terms and 2 young adult members for 1-year terms (for those between ages 16 & 22).

Following is the slate of candidates (four regular members) submitted by the Nominating Committee:



Mercedes Hill

Hello my name is Mercedes Hill.

I was born in Baltimore, Maryland, along with 10 other siblings. I grew up in the Cherry Hill community. I had a loving childhood. I

attended Western High School (yes, I'm a Dove!). I have two sons.

As a young lady, I was able to experience various jobs, but the one I enjoyed the most was driving mobility I enjoy people conversations. Knowledge is wonderful in later years.

I became a member of St. B's which has lasted 28 years and it has been a love connection that I will always enjoy.

I'm the president here at Benet House for the resident Council and do various jobs for the residents and family.

I will, with God's help, continue to do my best for all. Thank you for the Vestry nomination from St. B's.



Nicete Moodie

As a Maryland native, I grew up in Waldorf and I attended Charles County public schools. In 2007, I graduated from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill obtaining my bachelor's degree in American history

with an honors concentration in African American studies.

Thanks to the recession, I ended up losing my first job out of college and decided to spend some time visiting my grandmother and family in Panama, the country where my parents are from. As we always say, we make plans and God just laughs because I had all intentions of visiting Panama for a month or two but somehow two months turned into 2 and half years. I went from volunteer at a bilingual school to becoming full time English as a Second Language (ESL) teacher at St. Francis of Assisi Episcopal School. Making a difference in a child's life was extremely rewarding and I thoroughly enjoyed that experience. I taught third, fourth, and fifth grade- moving up each year with my students. I also had the opportunity to learn more about my Panamanian culture and background and became fluent in Spanish.

I grew up in a Catholic home but living in Panama I was able to attend an Episcopal church before accepting the teaching position. I was instantly greeted with hospitality and loved the overall organization of their Vestries. I knew then this was where I belonged. Upon returning to the states, I found an Episcopal church back in Waldorf - St. Paul's Episcopal. I was later reconfirmed as an Episcopalian by the Bishop Marianne Budde at the Washington National Cathedral in DC.

A few years later I moved to Ellicott City to be closer to my job located in downtown Baltimore. I drove past St. B's to and from work and finally in the early part of 2017, I decided to stop in and attend a 10:30am Sunday service. And just like in Panama, I was instantly met with warmth and hospitality thanks in part to David Murray and Kathie Clark, whose

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Vestry Nominees (*continued*)

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hospitality and infectious smile still stand true today. It was not long after that I knew I found a new church home. I became more involved as a reader and an acolyte.

When I first started attending St. B's, I worked for Share Our Strength, No Kid Hungry where I served as the Maryland Program Manager and oversaw meetings with superintendents, teachers, and nutrition directors to expand federally funded nutrition programs to at-risk kids. During this time, I collaborated with the Let's Move! Campaign and was blessed to have met First Lady Michelle Obama - first, planting alongside her at the White House garden and then again at the harvest feast held in the East Wing. (I was convinced that my life must be ending soon because this type of luck just doesn't happen twice!! But clearly it was nothing but God giving me the opportunity of a lifetime.)

I later left that organization to do similar work with the American Dairy Association North East where I worked with schools in Maryland, Delaware and New Jersey. While the job was challenging, I knew I was no longer fulfilled and was ready for a career change that concentrated on people instead of being burdened by red tape and the bureaucratic confines that often come with working at nonprofits and corporate companies.

I decided to pursue a career in hospitality and at the end of 2019, I began working at the MGM Hotel and Casino in National Harbor as a Marketing Executive Casino Host. Unfortunately, my tenure was short lived thanks to Covid19. Currently, I work part time as the Executive Director for the Maryland Association of Student Councils. It is an organization that works with school student government associations to make sure that students' voices are elevated on the local and state level.

If 2020 has taught us anything, it is that we can make all the plans in the world, but only God's plans are the ones that come into fruition. Because of the restrictions and closures caused by the pandemic, many of us, me included, have been given more time

than before. For me, I have taken this time to pause and reflect, primarily on the many blessings God has given to me. Despite all the craziness, I am grateful for my health, my family, and my church family at St. B's. I am grateful to have this opportunity to serve in a greater capacity and join the lovely members of the Vestry.



Gordon G. Piché

After serving in the Coast Guard for 34 years, we have found our forever home in Catonsville. I moved to Charlestown with my wife, Jane, on November 30, 2019 and the following Sunday, we attended St Bartholomew's Episcopal Church. We were most warmly welcomed, worked on the Flea Market, and we've been attending ever since. I would be honored to serve on the Vestry at St Bartholomew's.

I retired from the US Coast Guard in June, 1998, having served more than 34 years of managerial experience with extensive recruitment, assessment, and personnel management on a national scale in positions as Director of Personnel management for the entire Coast Guard for military and civilian employees. My career included 20 years in commercial vessel safety, port security and environmental protection developing, reviewing and approving comprehensive plans and complex systems for commercial ships and ports in full compliance with all applicable international, federal, state, and local laws and regulations.

I served as Assistant Superintendent of the US Coast Guard Academy (Dean of Administration of a small, accredited four-year college) with responsibilities to develop, allocate and maintain the resources to support the effective functioning of a military service academy including personnel management, health

Vestry Nominees (*continued*)

services, plant engineering, comptroller, EEO, legal and planning.

I hold a BSE from the US Coast Guard Academy in General Engineering and two MSE from the University of Michigan in Naval Architecture & Marine Engineering, and Engineering Mechanics. I am a life member of the Society of Naval Architects and Marine Engineers.

In retirement, I served as the usher coordinator for St. Margaret's church in Annapolis for 15 years. I also served with the Vestry as the church treasurer for 16 years – six of those years as a member of the Vestry. I was baptized at St John's Episcopal Church in Portsmouth NH in 1943 and have been a member of The Episcopal Church ever since.



Ben Smith, current Youth Member, who has been nominated for a second term.

Hi, my name is Ben Smith. I first attended St Bartholomew's when I was one week old and have been active in not only St B's, but also the Diocese of Maryland, since I can remember. At St. B's, I

have participated in events such as our regular youth group meetings, pilgrimage, Urban Adventure, the Maundy Thursday lock-in, and other youth-oriented activities. I also regularly serve as an acolyte under the fabulous direction of Martin Clark, and as a chalice. Participation in youth activities isn't only restricted to the church, as I frequently attend diocese-wide activities like New Beginnings, Happening, Convention, the Claggett summer camp, and much more. While I enjoy dedicating time to church, I also like to play basketball, watch movies,

and hang out with my friends. Being a part of Vestry has always been a goal of mine since I enjoy church activities so much and the community it builds, and seeing how the church runs would be an interesting and spiritually fulfilling way to use my time.



Celeste Thurston

Celeste found her way back to St. B's after coming as a youngster in the 60s and 70s. It was a practice in her family that if you spent the night with a friend on Saturday, Sunday morning you attended their church. Polly and Neil Patzer attended St. B's and since Susan was a friend, I came to St. B's frequently.

I remembered the music and the beauty of the grounds and windows. Then I bought a home in Westgate and joined the Ten Hills garden club. Your former parishioner Juanita Millican took me under her wing to teach me about gardening, so I would help and eventually run the plant sale that was held here for many years.

But it was my sister finding out she had stage 4 cancer that was my "Come to Jesus" moment, to pray, to meditate and to ensure my then 4-year-old son would learn that when we die, we still live. I walked to all the nearby churches. St. B's won because when I attended a second time, people remembered. The music was just as wonderful as my memories of it and I met your Sunday school teacher, Mr. Tim, who assured me my son Grant would be welcomed.

I didn't immediately join the choir, but I used to sit next to John Burley, who convinced me I should. He loved my voice and I loved his quiet, studious manner and his involvement in civil rights work. It made me want to grow up knowing him, to hear history that I could never imagine about this neighborhood and parish where I now call home.

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Vestry Nominees (*continued*)

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I have worked for Comcast Cable for 38 years. I love to sing, write songs, play ukulele, and my new acquisition lap dulcimer. I am a member of 4 community singing circles and I am the VP of an active Arts guild. I am currently a participant in the Outreach Committee and Adult Formation. I co-lead our Landscape Committee and I organize receptions for our amazing choir, which I did join about 1 year

after coming here. I personally feel blessed to have someone as skilled as Ted Davis to learn from and sing with. Our concerts rival those of paid choirs in our city; I am so very proud to have been in all of them.

I have been part of the Flea Market Committee for over 10 years and I truly look forward to seeing old friends as we sort through the summer.

☞ Community Formation

Fall Session of Sankofa Circles — Coming Soon!

by Diane Mountain

Connecting in small groups within our wider parish community is a wonderful opportunity here at St. Bartholomew's. Our Sankofa Circle ministry provides a way for groups of 10-12 people to meet weekly for discussion of the sermon and scriptures, prayer, and fellowship. In these coronatimes, we have transitioned to Zoom (or other on-line avenues) to hold videoconference Sankofa Circles. While this approach is not as fulfilling as gathering in person, it has important benefits as well: We can join from wherever we are!

We plan to start a new Sankofa Circle session by the end of October. Look for an email with available dates and times. I hope you will consider joining one of the groups — whether you've participated in Sankofa before, or you are new to the practice. More information will be coming, so stay tuned to "What's Happening" each week.

In the meantime, if you are interested in participating — or if you have questions and would like to get more information — please email Maggie Caldwell in the church office: mcaldwell@stbs-md.org. She can put you in touch with one of our Sankofa Circle leaders or participants.

— Diane is a member of the Sankofa Circle Planning Committee



For the Women's Retreat!

Mark your calendars
for the Women's Retreat
with Flo Ledyard and
Katharine Armentrout
on Zoom!

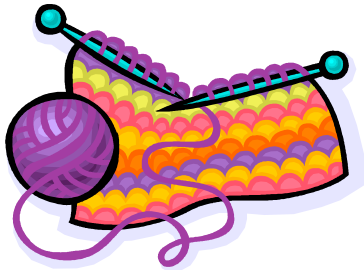
January 29—31, 2021

Prayer Shawls and Sewing Bees

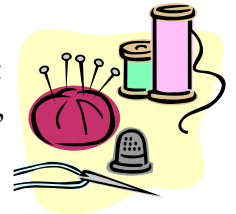
by Jean Storrs

The Prayer Shawls craft shawls and prayer squares to give to parishioners and 40 West clients in need of comfort. The shawls are a tangible hug folks can keep with them all the time—a tangible reminder of our love and care for them, and God’s love and

care for them. Knitters and crocheters of any age and ability are welcome.



St. B’s Sewing Bees gather for crafting and fellowship. Any sort of handwork is encouraged—knitting, quilting, cross-stitch, scrapbooking, etc.



The Prayer Shawls and Sewing Bees meet together via Zoom on the first Wednesday of the month from 7:00 to 9:00 pm.

For more information about the Prayer Shawls and St. B’s Sewing Bees, please contact Jean Storrs at 443-798-1439 or aandj@mindspring.com.

A Thank You from the Catonsville Senior Center

This past August, the Catonsville Senior Center (CSC) put out a request for donations of yarn to support their Community Project, Project Linus. Project Linus is a national nonprofit organization with local chapters in many states that collect and deliver new blankets to children who are sick or traumatized.

St. Bartholomew’s was able to answer the call. Two shopping bags of yarn, from the supply of donated yarn stored for use by our own Sewing Bees and Prayer Shawl groups, was delivered to the CSC.

Members of the Catonsville Senior Center crochet blankets, scarves, stuffed toys, baby hats, and shawls to donate. Many items go to St. Agnes Hospital, where they are disinfected and stored for use with patients. Prayer shawls are distributed to several churches in the area, where they are blessed and distributed to those in need.

The crochet group at the CSC had experienced a shortage of supplies, as the COVID-19 restrictions have impacted their ability to be together and to obtain donations, but not their desire to serve.



Those of us who are fans of the Peanuts comic strip are familiar with Linus Van Pelt, his beloved security blanket and his philosopher’s wisdom. Project Linus is named for this beloved character.

Children who are sick, who have suffered a traumatic event or who are otherwise in need, benefit from receiving blankets and the loving care they represent.

The Catonsville Senior Center extended a heartfelt thank you to St. Bartholomew’s for the generous donation.

Fire, COVID-19, and Life at St. B's

by Bryan MacKay

Two nights ago we camped at Lava Beds National Monument in northeastern California, arriving well into dusk. It's an austere place of mostly volcanic rock piles and lava caves, with some occasional pockets of soil hosting juniper trees, sagebrush, and autumn-dry wild grasses. Upon arising the next morning, we were astonished to find that a major fire just six weeks before had burned 70% of the Monument. All the grasses and brush were gone, and most of the junipers had fire-blackened trunks and withered grey leaves. It was a vision out of T. S. Eliot's "The Wasteland." Would this fragile but austere landscape ever recover? Would life ever return in the abundance and diversity it once had?

Which got me to thinking . . .

Our current COVID-19 situation is in some ways similar to conditions at Lava Beds. Without the advantages of in-person church each Sunday, I find maintaining a sense of community is difficult, even with Zoom church. I so look forward to that joyous day when we can all be together, in person, worshipping God in our beloved sanctuary. But when that day happens, I know our community will be different, in ways we cannot now predict.

Back at Lava Beds, the 2021 growing season will bring renewal, with green grasses rising, new growth on the surviving junipers, fresh buds on the rabbitbrush and sage. Birds will return to nest, and deer to graze, carrying seeds on their feathers and fur. Humans will

be helping too, planting thousands of seedling trees. Resurrection of life in a devastated landscape will be like a miracle.

And so it is with our congregation. We will need new members to replace losses, to provide new energy, to do new mission, and to carry the message of Jesus to a recovering neighborhood, and world.

We can get started on that process today. Invite a friend to Zoom church (or to in-person church, when it resumes). Even if you've invited someone before, life is different now during and after COVID-19 — a gentle inquiry might be in order. Or, put out the good word on your favorite social media platform; those methods of communication are more widely used than ever before. Publicize what we are still doing in spite of COVID-19: we worship together every Sunday; we volunteer with and support 40 West A&R, Hope Harbor, My Brother's Keeper, Cease Fire Baltimore, KIVA, . . . the list goes on. Helping with an attractive mission can be a gateway to faith and church attendance.

Just like at Lava Beds, renewal, redemption, resurrection, and re-creation at St. B's *will* take place, during and after COVID-19. It's just that God needs an assist from us to make it happen sooner. So be that blazing beacon of God's transforming love in the world — invite a friend!

— Bryan is Chair of the Newcomers' Committee



Daughters of the King Celebrate their Anniversary

by *Glorius M. Sullivan*

The Order of the Daughters of the King, The Margaret Rollo Chapter, is celebrating its 32nd Anniversary this year. It made me think about the women who started the Order back in 1988, and how grateful I am for the Order, and to be a member of the Order now.

When I think about some of the previous members of the Order whom I've known, like Margaret Rollo, Sylvia Adler, Anne Prince, and Pat Lawler, just to name a few that have passed on to life Eternal, I am reminded of how I knew them as friends at St. B's — not only their service in the Library Committee, as Acolyte Director, Assistant Treasurer, but their grace and manor and focus on others. What a gift and example for the Daughters like myself who came to the Order after them! It gladdens my heart to be in fellowship with current daughters, both in our Chapter, in the Diocesan Chapters, and in the wider world membership of Daughters. I am grateful for the Rule of Prayer and the Rule of Service that helps direct my life.

With the coronavirus still causing us to live our lives under different rules and regulations for the safety of ourselves and others, one thing that hasn't changed is the need for prayer — for lots and lots of prayer.

One of my morning prayers that helps me focus for the day ahead is this one:

Dear God,

Please order my thoughts today. Place in my mind those things that are a priority to you; those things that will establish divine order in the life you have given me. Take

away the thoughts, habits, attitudes, which create fear and keep me from being in alignment with Your will. Help me to see things through Your eyes, according to Your law. Take away every thought, want, unconscious urge that can place me on the treadmill of pain and confusion. Fill my mind with Your will, Your way, Your desire for me today. Help me to see all things from a divine perspective today; a perspective of love, peace, and joy. And then, Lord, guide me to act accordingly. In Jesus name I pray, Amen.

Today, my thoughts are ordered.

(Author unknown)

As always, Daughters pray for ourselves and the needs of others. Let us know if there is a special need for prayers for you or your family or friends. It's one of the most important ways we serve.

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

The Motto of the Order of the Daughters of the King

For His Sake

I am but one, but I am one.

I cannot do everything, but I can do something.

What I can do, I ought to do.

What I ought to do, by the grace of God I will do.

Lord, what will you have me do?



EDUCATION and FORMATION OPPORTUNITIES for Everyone!

Ongoing faith formation is critical for a yeasty and lively spiritual life. We know that is true for our children and youth. It is also true for adults. So at St B's we have number of intriguing opportunities – even during this odd virus time!

For our younger characters: **Children's Word** with Miss Ebony and Miss Jo Anne!

Children's Word resumes in a new online format via Zoom. The Kangaroo class, for children age three through second grade, meets with Miss Ebony from 5:00 to 5:30 pm every Sunday evening, and the Elephant class, for children in grades 3 through 5, meets with Miss Jo Anne on Tuesday evenings from 7:00 to 7:30 pm. Depending on how things go and what we learn along the way, those times could be adjusted somewhat to better accommodate family needs.

Both classes will follow the Spark curriculum we have been using the past few years, but as always, our creative teachers will inject some personal touches into the lessons. If you are interested in checking out Zoom Children's Word for your child, please contact Steve Miller (stmiller@umbc.edu) or Maggie Caldwell (mcaldwell@stbs-md.org), so we can get Zoom login information and Spark materials to you. Miss Ebony and Miss Jo Anne are so looking forward to reconnecting with the children they taught last year and to meeting new Kangaroos and Elephants this year. Miss Ebony and Miss Jo Anne also look forward to us all being together in person someday, but in the meantime, they are ready for an online adventure, and hope our St. B's Children are, too!

For our Youth: **D Group**

Our Youth Ministry is for young people in grades 6—12. We currently meet on Zoom on Sunday evenings from 5:00 to 6:30 pm to share a meal, enjoy activities, worship together, and learn. The youth enjoy leading worship songs, with high schoolers taking a special leadership role. Our adult-led and lectionary-based Youth classes are really driven by our Youth and the issues that most inspire deep and meaningful discussion. All are invited. Bring a friend!

St. B's Youth also participate in **Diocesan Youth Events**:

Youth Leadership Online, for those in grades 8 – 12, meets on Tuesdays from 4:30 to 6:00 pm. Each week something different is offered, from church history to the Book of Revelation, leadership skills, and selfcare.

Online Youth Group, for youth in grades 6 – 12, meets on Thursdays from 4:30 to 6:00 pm. Youth gather for check-ins, prayers, and a rotation of games or Bible study using the Bible Project at Home.

Details and registration information may be found at <http://episcopalmarylandyouth.weebly.com/events.html>

For older youth and adults:

Faith Forum considers different current topics of interest and is led by various and sundry people. These are intriguing and interesting opportunities to share information, ask questions, and discover new understandings about our faith and all that it entails.

This year we will gather at 9:00 am on the second Sunday of the month with a hard end at 9:45 am so everyone can have a break before worship at 10:00 am. (So, at 9:00 am, you can choose to zoom into

EDUCATION and FORMATION OPPORTUNITIES *(continued)*

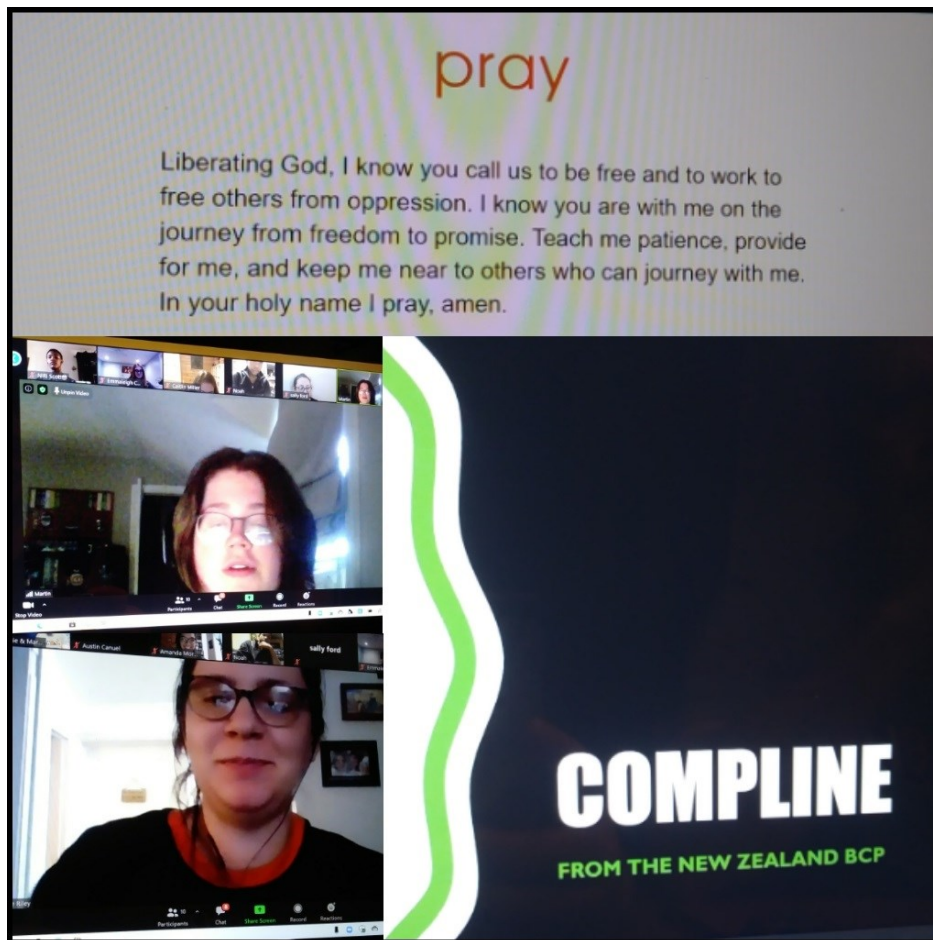
Faith Forum or Coffee Hour. The links will be in the emails you normally receive.)

October 11: 100 Years of Women's Suffrage (led by Flo Ledyard)

November 8: Jesus Withdrew – On Purpose (led by Joe Twist)

Episcopal 102, led by Carol Burnside, meets via Zoom on Mondays from 5:30 to 7:00 pm. We'll be discussing the Top 100 Stories (more or less) in the Bible, story by story, and look at each story through

the lenses of Relationship, Redemption, and Faithfulness. In January/February, we'll learn about Prayer in the Book of Common Prayer by exploring Noonday Prayer, Compline, and Morning and Evening Prayer, including the Daily Office Lectionary, before returning to Bible Stories in the spring. This is an opportunity to receive instruction prior to Confirmation or Reception in the Episcopal Church. Sound intriguing? Everyone is welcome. Want more information? Contact Carol Burnside at shinyredtruck@msn.com or text/call at 410-440-7394.



Diocesan Online Youth Group

Stewardship at St. B's

by Cynthia Wagner

What a different place the world is now compared to this time in 2019! Although the pandemic has required us to do things differently, St. Bartholomew's is still my (and hopefully yours) source of spiritual energy that allows us to continue to be "Blazing beacons of God's transforming love in the world". And the world is really in need of God's love these days. In addition to the Zoom church provided by faithful and talented congregation members, 40 West is still giving out food, St. B's is a CSA pick-up site, and the extra produce is being delivered to Paul's Place in Pigtown.

St. B's is adapting to this new world and in order for us to continue these and other activities, we will have our annual Stewardship campaign. Mark your calendars for **Sunday, October 25th** as the kick-off for the annual Stewardship campaign.

As in years past, you will be receiving a letter from the committee detailing some highlights of St. B's continued presence in the lives of congregation members and the 40W corridor. And in order for this good work to continue, we will be asking you to consider making a monetary pledge to St. B's.

In addition, we are keenly aware that the pandemic seriously impacted congregation members' financial situation, so we are combining the time and talent drive with the treasure drive this year. Our time and talents are very much a reflection of our commitment to God and the St. Bartholomew's congregation. Details about how to pledge will be outlined in the forthcoming letter.

— Cynthia is Chair of the Stewardship Committee

Financial Position as of August 30, 2020

— Financial information is provided by John Schroeder, Treasurer

August 31, 2020	Current Month		Year to Date	
	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget
Total Income	53,980.31	47,066.67	380,998.29	376,533.32
Total Expenses	(39,977.92)	(51,101.20)	(371,141.17)	(408,809.66)
Difference	14,002.39	(4,034.53)	9,857.12	(32,276.34)

Voting: a right, a privilege, and a responsibility!

by Kim Flash

The Outreach Committee is sponsoring an “Open-Zoom” session for anyone who would like assistance navigating the “how-to” of voting for the upcoming November election. Not sure how to register to vote and don’t know who to ask? Do you want to request a mail-in ballot but you don’t know how? Are you unsure about deadlines for applying for or sending in your ballot?

If you – or someone you know – would like to talk about anything related to the 2020 election, please join us!

Saturday, October 17th
1:00 -2:00 pm

Join Zoom Meeting

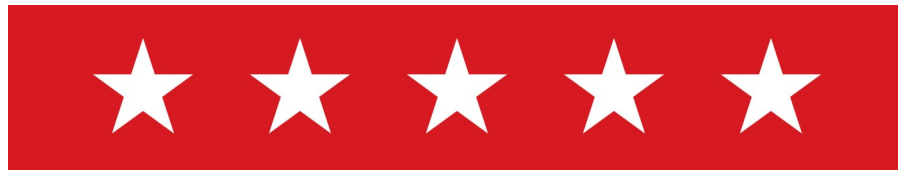
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81511740155?pwd=QnljRk5YMnVRazZLN0lhWnV4SXZjQT09>

Meeting ID: 815 1174 0155

Passcode: 703085

Dial-in Number: 301 715 8592

— Kim is Co-Chair of the Outreach Committee



VOTING INFORMATION



VOTING SAFELY IN THE BALTIMORE AREA: Tips for 2020 – PART 2

Be sure you're registered! The deadline to register is October 13, 2020.

Register online at the State Board of Elections: <https://voterservices.elections.maryland.gov>

Mail-In Ballots:

- ⇒ YOU WILL NOT AUTOMATICALLY RECEIVE A MAIL-IN BALLOT UNLESS YOU REQUEST ONE. All registered voters should already have received by mail, a form that allows you to request a mail-in ballot. You can use this written request, or request online at the address above. Requests for mail-in ballots must be received by the Board of Elections by October 20th.

- ⇒ Be sure your ballot gets returned and counted! The best method for returning your completed ballot is to drop it in a designated drop box before election day. A list of the drop box locations will come with your ballot. You can also mail it by US Postal Service any time before election day, though the postmark must be no later than 8:00 pm Nov. 3rd.

Voting In-Person:

- ⇒ Early voting begins October 26th and ends November 2nd. Check the Board of Elections website (above) to learn where the early voting centers are, and where you can vote, depending on your address.

- ⇒ Election Day is November 3rd, 2020.

- ⇒ If you vote in person, either during early voting or on Election Day:
 - ◆ Not all usual polling places will be open. Check the Board of Elections website to verify where you should vote.
 - ◆ Be sure to wear a face covering, including over your nose.
 - ◆ Maintain at least 6 feet distance between you and others.
 - ◆ Try to arrive early. Be prepared for longer wait times.

**No matter which candidates you support, remember that voting
is our right, our privilege, and our responsibility.
Democracy works if we all participate!**

St. B's Fleas: It's Not Over Yet!

by Mary Helen Sprecher

St. B's Flea Market has been a great success! Saturday, September 26, was our last day for the fall Flea – and it was DISCOUNT DAY! Bag sales on clothing, box sales on books and half price sales in many departments were held.

We have made over \$6,000 so far (through September 19 and in a pandemic year!) and we're still counting!

We are considering a holiday sale so please keep us in mind for your shopping at that time as well.

Questions? Contact Celeste Thurston: Celeste_Thurston@comcast.com or Mary Helen Sprecher: mhsprecher@gmail.com

— Mary Helen is Co-Chair of the Flea Market Committee



A Wild and Woolly August

by Peggy McMillan

August 2020 was like no other! Over four days 40 West distributed 24,742 pounds of food to 558 households for an average of 6,185 pounds of food per distribution. On average, each household received almost 45 pounds of food per distribution. This was an increase of 108 households and 11,892 pounds of food compared to August 2019.

What a lot of work! It couldn't have been done without 40 West's core of volunteers, Maryland Food Bank's (up to) ten volunteers at each food event, and four students from Mount St. Joseph who helped throughout the summer. In addition, numerous members of St. Bartholomew volunteered faithfully as well as several 40 West Board members.

Thank you to Susan Lundin for ordering copious amounts of economical but good food; to Barbara Knauf who designs how best to pack the bags; to the food delivery crew Gretchen Parry, Larry Henderson and Guy Anderson; to Carol Jones who monitors our pantry; Carol Bailey, Peggy Cummings, and Glorius Sullivan of the 40 West Board who volunteer; our Wednesday crew of Peggy Dorsey and Joyce Stanley; and all else who come to help one day or many. It couldn't be done without you. Many thanks.

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



40 West and Hope Harbor “Crab and Go!”

by Anna M. Williams

This year, COVID-19 and social distancing have changed how we do many things. One of the things that has changed is how we will host our **6th Annual Crab Feast** — a big fundraiser for 40 West and Hope Harbor!

However, it has not changed our delicious menu and tasty crabs. Monaghan’s Pub and Harris Seafood will once again be the caterers for our yearly crab feast. The food and crabs will be delicious as always. While we can’t enjoy them this year together as a community, you can still purchase a dinner-to-go without crabs, a dinner with crabs, or just crabs.



The dinner will consist of our crab feast favorites — pulled pork, chicken bites, seafood mac and cheese, green beans, a roll and a cookie. This year if you don’t eat crabs please come out and purchase a dinner. If you are a true crab lover and don’t want the dinner, you will be able to purchase a dozen, half bushel, or bushel. If you like both you will be able to purchase a dinner which includes 6 crabs. This year, we have something for everyone.

The date is Saturday, October 24th, 2020 and we will serve from St. Agnes Church-5422 Old Frederick Road. We will practice social distancing and will ask everyone to wear a mask when you come to pick up your order.

Tickets are available at [HERE](#) and must be purchased by SATURDAY, OCTOBER 10! If you would like additional information or have questions please send an email to: 40westhopeharborcrabfeast@gmail.com

We hope you will support us. Looking forward to seeing you on October 24, 2020

— Anna is Director of Resources and Program for Hope Harbor



All tickets must be purchased by October 10th, 2020, 12PM

For more information, email: 40westhopeharborcrabfeast@gmail.com

FOOD BY MONAGHAN'S PUB AND CRABS BY HARRIS SEAFOOD

On Curses and Blessings

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 in this section of *The Apostle*.

This month Amanda Harris has a grace-filled 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

by Amanda Harris

On April 11th, the day before Easter and one week after our 5th anniversary, my husband, with exactly 10 minutes' notice, walked out of our marriage, flew to Oklahoma, and very shortly thereafter filed for divorce, all of this with no meaningful conversation with me. The divorce was finalized on 9/14/20. So, it's been quite an eventful 5½ months, and among the most difficult periods of my life. Huge waves of grief, depression, and anger. (and, as an extra bonus,) Suddenly I was thrust into having to get my house prepared to sell and find a new place for my children and me to live. It's been pretty awful at times.

And yet: a tsunami of blessings followed. I've always known that I have an amazing family and an extraordinary community of friends, especially at St B's, but I really didn't know HOW fortunate I am until I really, really needed you, and there you all

were. Meals delivered to Ben and me? Check. Phone calls/emails/texts/Facebook messages to check in? Yep, more than I can count. Dozens and dozens of sweet cards. Flowers and fruit baskets. Offers of huge help with house prep. And the prayers; oh, the prayers just kept coming and coming, keeping me emotionally afloat and spiritually connected.

So, as unbelievably painful as these months have been, I have been given SO many glimpses of the beauty in the world, and the care and concern that people—and through them, God—have for me, so how can I be other than thankful?

Many of you reading this were and are part of my personal Beloved Community. I love you all, and continue to say prayers of thanksgiving for the multitude of ways in which you are each a blessing to me. I will do my best to be a blessing to each of you and to others. Grace abounds!



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; Lillian Thomas; Celia Vismale; Ray Zeigler; Larry Brown; Sandra DeSilva; Tiger Watts; Peter Griffin; Jon Davis; Young Sam; Michelle Haynie Madison; Kate Henshall; Mary Warfield; Amanda Harris and Marilyn and Ben Smith; Ayodele House; Tom Cover; Kelsey Blackert; Jim Wright; Dan Chambers; Gordon Bowmaker; Bev Lohr; Kathleen DeVale; Inez Haynie Dodson; 40 West Assistance and Referral Center Clients; Hope Harbor partner families; Heidi; Theresa Thomas; Meg and Shaun; Kathy and Andy; Don and Angel; John and Jean; 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; Kyle Yoder; Warren Pulliam; Bernie Feely; Brianna; Aminata Kabia; Clay Shiflet; Jackie and Romaine Phillips; Riley Goddard and her family; Clarice Patterson; Brian and Marcia Legister; Junius Goode; Dick Ridenour; Barbara Blackwell; Arlyce Burton; Kimberley McLean; Fran Hager; Mary Demory; Mary McMearn; Andrea Barnard; Barbara Hunter; Elizabeth Hunton; Patricia Gibson; Van Gardner; Marianne; Camille Madison Robinson; Yana Anderson; Heather; Bob Ihloff; the Matthews family; Dewey Ratcliffe and family; Erin Nagle; Scott Armentrout; Richard Smith; Gregory Morton; Amanda Lee and family; Joan Beilstein; Mason, Ethan, and the Drelles family; Deshon Sanders; Peggy McMillan; Scott Slater; 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 November issue of *The Apostle* is Thursday, October 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.



St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church

4711 Edmondson Avenue

Baltimore, Maryland 21229-1440

office phone: 410-945-7263

☞ Worship & Christian Formation ☜

This is our “normal” scheduled for 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.

During this complicated time, we worship on Sunday mornings at 10:00 am via Zoom.

Please visit our website to learn how you can join us!

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.