The APOSTLE

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

From Strangers to Family

St B's has often been a place for people to come and serve a church internship on their way to ordination. A place to learn and experience parish life and ministry with a different perspective. And so we have been doing just that with Steven Smith. October 3rd is his last Sunday with us before he moves on to a Gospel Justice internship.

So here are his wonderful reflections!

- Flo Ledyard, Rector

October 2021

by Steven Smith

When I first logged in to worship via Zoom in January I didn't know what to expect. I wondered how I would be received because even though I knew Flo, Neva, Marty, Joe Twist, Michael Haynie, and even Bishop Knudsen, I was coming into St B's a complete stranger. I came in with an open mind and an open heart.

Well, St B's family, I was met with love and support from the time I logged on until the time I walked through St B's doors. I learned that real parishioners affectionately refer to St Bartholomew's as "St B's" and I quickly learned that from everyone I came in contact with.

On my first visit inside St B's with Gay Warshaw, she showed me and my wife around the altar and the rest of St B's beautiful church. During our conversation, her words resonated with me when she told me that she never wants to serve at a church where everyone looks like her and you know what Gay – neither do I.

As deacons we are called to serve all people and to love our neighbors as we love ourselves. I was able to enjoy not just Sunday worship but also the Faith Forums which explored "How to Lament" and "Why Did Jesus Have to Die" to name a few interesting conversations. I even got to enjoy one of my favorite past times, "Stations of the Cross," while working with the Daughters of the King. What a truly wonderful and blessed time.

During one of the most difficult times in our lives when my mother-in-law, Francine Neal, died in March, my St B's family was there for us, and my wife and I are forever grateful.

I enjoyed worshiping via Zoom, but worshiping in person was a truly wonderful experience. From the first Sunday when people were allowed to worship in person and Rev. Burnside gave me one of the biggest

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Second Strangers to Family

(Continued from page 1)

and warmest hugs I've ever received or when Marty gave me a huge fist bump to welcome me in person, I knew I was part of something special, a family. A family that not only serves the church but the community around them. From 40 West Assistance, Hope Harbor, and the Gospel Justice Group, serving the community is just as important as the church.

Speaking of the GJG, I've been able to serve with a great group of people from Charles Flexner, Dana Rose, Amanda Harris, Heather Neil, Willis Keeling, Daphne Cover, and Michael Sarbanes. Working with you has inspired me to complete my Social Justice internship at Green Street Academy which we toured in July. I fell in love with the place and I hope that I can help Dr. Lindsey and her staff to help the students learn and grow into responsible and prayerfully God-fearing adults.

I also had the honor and privilege to work with Mary Helen Sprecher, Debbie Whacker, Dave Mountain and the rest of the Flea Market committee while working as part of the set-up and break down crew. I am happy to know that even doing the pandemic the Flea Market still raised a lot of money to help with community outreach. I really enjoyed Mary Helen's many costumes – especially the "Cash Cow" costume. I enjoyed visiting our St B's parishioners who live in the Charlestown retirement community. It was a pleasure to work with Neva while providing them with Holy Communion.

I enjoyed receiving some feedback on my sermons. Not just from Flo, Neva, and Thelma, but the parishioners as well. Your support and encouragement means so much to me and it makes me want to preach even more.

I enjoying serving as crucifer while carrying the cross during procession on Sundays. Standing in the at the back of the church during dismissal made me feel like I was looking up to heaven.

From the bottom of my heart I want to say thank you to my St B's family. We are strangers no more. God's peace and blessings be with you all. I leave you with this:

I will, with God's help, be a vibrant member of the faith community that is a blazing beacon of God's transforming love in the world. God is calling to me to take righteous risks. I accept this call, and will respond by seeking and serving Christ in ALL people.

— Steve is St. B's Intern

৩ Worship



Blessing of the Animals

Bring yourself and your pets to our Annual Blessing of the Animals in the Courtyard on <u>Saturday, October 2 at 4:00 pm</u>. Invite a neighbor! All animals and their people are welcome!

Worship at St. B's

Join us for worship! We worship in the Church at 8:00 and 10:30 am. Please wear a mask. You can also join us for our 10:30 am worship on Zoom.

Here's how you can join us on Zoom — at 10:00 am through September 12 — and <u>at 10:30 am</u> beginning September 19:

This is the link: <u>https://zoom.us/j/7641738777?pwd=d05KWmJPZ0ZZaHlmUlpRK2NiOFp6UT09</u>.

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: (301)-715-8592

AND, you can come early to have some fun at our Zoom Coffee Hour.

"Take Out @ St. B's"

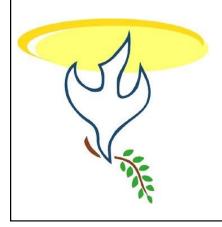


On Saturday, October 30, from 11:30 am to 12:30 pm, we will once again be serving "Take Out @ St. B's."

If you would like to be able to have Eucharist during worship on Sunday, October 31, Sunday November 7 (All Saints' Sunday), and on Sunday, November 21 (The Last Sunday after Pentecost: Christ the King), 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.



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 7), we pray for all of those near and dear to us who departed this life since the previous All Saints' celebration on November 1, 2020.

To add someone to our remembrance, contact the Church Office (<u>office@stbs-md.org</u> or 410-945-7263) with the names you would like to have read by no later than Sunday, October 31.

Available Online . . .

On Our <u>Website</u>:

 \sim "A Moment of Peace and Quiet" — a digital devotion.

 \sim Recordings of St. B's worship services.



And on our <u>"Music at St. Bartholomew's -Baltimore" YouTube Channel</u>:

~ Virtual Choral Evensong (recorded June 13)

 \sim The 14th edition of Bach at St. Bartholomew's

Tree Marriage

Shared by Janet Aldrich

This poem is a bit "outside the box" of our usual spiritual probing, but I cannot resist including it in the soon-to-be fierycolored arboreal month of October to pair with Flo's recent "hugging trees" photo she sent during her sabbatical. We, especially at St. B's, are used to hugging on another, and we have a whole landscape group that relishes time under the trees and in our parish garden. Flo has seen this poem from me before, so I take only partial liberties in tying her photo to this poem as a celebration of God's creation and our unity with it.

Tree Marriage

In Chota Nagpur and Bengal the betrothed are tied with threads to mango trees, they marry the trees as well as one another, and the two trees marry each other. Could we do that sometime with oaks or beeches? This gossamer we hold each other with, this web of love and habit is not enough. In mistrust of heavier ties, I would like tree-siblings for us, standing together somewhere, two trees married with us, lightly, their fingers barely touching in sleep, our threads invisible but holding.

~~ William Meredith



Choir School of West Baltimore

MAKING MUSIC BUILDING COMMUNITY CHANGING LIVES

- Grades 3-8
- Tuition-free
- Professional choral, voice, and piano lessons
- Leadership development
- Tutoring and mentoring programs

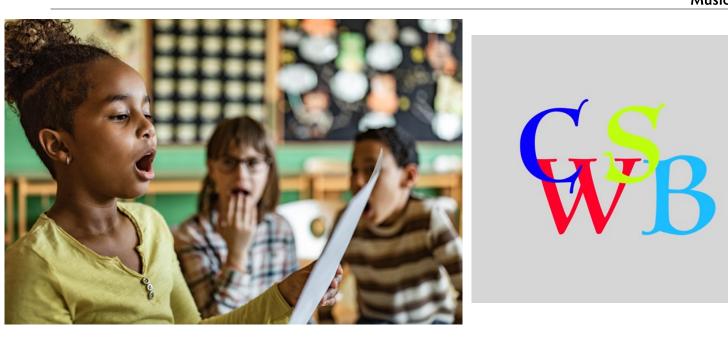
Announcing a new outreach and program initiative! The **Choir School of West Baltimore** is based on the idea that all children are able to sing, given encouragement and instruction. We offer a tuition-free program of music education and performance opportunities for girls and boys grades 3 through 8.

The Choir School is a musical and educational outreach of St. Bartholomew's. We look to offer a unique, tuition-free after school and/or weekend program that offers professional choral training, voice and piano lessons, leadership development, academic tutoring, and mentoring to children and teenagers. We seek students to represent a wide range of cultural communities and faith traditions.

Enrollment is open to children and youth, grades 3-8, from the community and, of course, from St. Bartholomew's.

We are carefully following the developments of the pandemic, and hope to announce a launch date when group singing is a safe activity once again.

More information can be found in our brochure, which can be downloaded from our web site, www.stbs-md.org, or by contacting us at 410-241-1585, or <u>ted@stbs-md.org</u>.





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 21:

- Steve Miller provided an update from the Kid's Council.
- Dave Murray reported on the status of the Undercroft and estimates for additional roof repairs. The Vestry approved a motion to fund roof repair on Church properties.
- The Vestry provided feedback and suggestions on the Sankofa circles.

The next regular meetings, scheduled on September 28 and October 19 and 26 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.

Solution Community Formation

Sewing Bees

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

The Sewing Bees gather at the Hardy home on the second Tuesday of the month at 2:00 pm.

For more information about the St. B's Sewing Bees, please contact Sharon Selleck at 301-538-7160 or <u>scobleselleck@gmail.com</u>.



Sankofa Circles at St. B's: Connecting, Learning, & Growing through Small Group Ministry

by Diane Mountain

I'm pretty tired of compassionate distancing. After 18 months of being oh-so-careful in my physical interactions with others, I feel worn down a bit. And when it comes to social connections, even simple conversation, I feel a little rusty.

Does this sound familiar to you? I invite you to try Sankofa Circles as a spiritual pick-me-up this fall! At St. Bartholomew's, Sankofa Circles are small groups that gather weekly to discuss the sermon and scripture from the previous Sunday. Fellowship, prayer, worship, and sharing pastoral concerns are also fundamental parts of our weekly circles.

The fall Sankofa session is getting organized now — groups are expected to begin meeting in October. A special welcome is extended to newcomers and to those of you who participate in Sunday Zoom worship. Details will be provided in the "What's Happening" and via email in the coming weeks. In the meantime, if you are interested, please let Maggie Caldwell know that you want to participate and we'll be sure to reach out with more information (email <u>mcaldwell@stbs-md.org</u>). And if you just want more information, reach out to Flo or Thelma, or feel free to contact me (410-945-4953, <u>pdiane505@gmail.com</u>), or other members of the planning group, Bill Kulp and Judy Sabalauskas.

We are always looking for experienced small group leaders to help us offer more Sankofa Circles. Please consider this ministry and let us know if you are interested in serving!

Sankofa Circles are an extraordinary opportunity to move forward at this time of uncertainty and, often, anxiety. Engaging with the scriptures, sharing fellowship and prayers, we build relationships with each other as fellow Christian travelers in the world. These relationships are the foundation of a strong community, a community filled with blazing beacons of Christ's love.

— Diane is a member of the Sankofa Circle Planning Committee



Women's Retreat

Mark your calendars for the Women's Retreat January 28—30, 2022

At the Inn at Claggett Buckeystown, Maryland

Men's Retreat

Dates have been set for the for the next Men's Retreat February 11—13, 2022

At the Inn at Claggett Buckeystown, Maryland

From the Daughters of the King

by Glorius M. Sullivan

It is with great pleasure that I announce that Dana Rose has been elected President of the Margaret Rollo Chapter of the Order of the Daughters of the King at St. Bartholomew's Church! Glorius Sullivan is the new Secretary and continues as the Treasurer. Our terms are for one year.

After serving four years as President, Glorius Sullivan is retiring from that office. Jenni Williams, who served four years as Vice President, is also retiring at this time. It has truly been our pleasure to have been given these opportunities within the Chapter.

Our Daughters continue to meet monthly via Zoom for fellowship, to gather and share prayer requests, to study and pray, and to plan how we can serve. With our Rule of Service, we are active in many areas of ministry within St. Bartholomew's Church and in our neighborhoods.

With our Rule of Prayer, our days begin and end with prayer — asking God for strength and help and hope and giving thanks for our many blessings — prayer always makes a difference. As Daughters, we pray for needs known to us and those known only to God, for our parish family, families, friends, for peace and hope — and we give thanks always for God's abundant blessings. The gift of prayer — that time with God — makes a difference in our lives and in the lives of those for whom we pray. To have the Daughters pray for your specific need, contact any Daughter to add that name to our confidential list.

Our Current Daughters are:

Kathie Clark	Inez Haynie Dodson
Helen Ellis	Pam Hall
Verna Harrison	Saville Janney
Leslie Marsiglia	Shirley Nathan-Pulliam
Carole Novian	Dana Rose
Glorius Sullivan	Deborah Wacker
Jenni Williams	

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?

For further information about our Chapter of The Order of the Daughters of the King, please contact our new DOK Chapter President Dana Rose at Juskit5@gmail.com.

— Glorius is Secretary/Treasurer of the Margaret Rollo Chapter of the Daughters of the King



Children's Word

by Kobey DeVale and Steve Miller

As noted in the September Apostle, Children's Word will return the first Sunday in October, October 3, and will be held in a hybrid format during the 10:30 am service so that children can attend either onsite or via Zoom. Kobey DeVale will lead the Elephant class (grades 3-5) and Steve Miller will lead the Kangaroos (preschool to grade 2). We will use the Spark curriculum, which follows the same lectionary calendar as our services do, so that our children will be learning the same lessons every Sunday that adults do from our clergy. Plus, our clergy (at least some of them!) will record a short video message for our Elephants and Kangaroos each Sunday to provide a bit of theological background on the lesson. Classes will take place during the time from the reading of the Gospel through the passing of the peace.



October 3 will be kind of a "meet and greet" day for our children and teachers to get to know each other and their learning spaces, with the "real" classes beginning October 10. In advance we will mail out or distribute "fun boxes" to our Elephants and Kangaroos that include materials for a month's worth of meetings for those who will not be attending in person, plus other items that we hope will help our children learn and have fun throughout the days between classes.



Please let Kobey DeVale (<u>kdevale@devale.net</u>), Steve Miller (<u>stmiller@umbc.edu</u>) or Maggie Caldwell (<u>mcaldwell@stbs-md.org</u>) know if you would like your child to join Children's Word, and/or if you have questions about the program or would like to be involved in any way with it.

- Kobey and Steve are a members of the Kid's Council

G-Group & Lighthouses

by Marty Clark

Lighthouses were put in place to warn mariners of the perils of the shore. To guide the path to safe harbor. To light the way!

I've always liked the comparison of Jesus to be my lighthouse. Leading me on straight paths. Steering me clear of trouble. Boy, have I needed guidance of this sort in my life. I'm so grateful to have a friendship with Jesus. I am also grateful to a loving community that nourishes & supports me in this relationship with Christ. D-Group is a channel to build on our relationship (friendship) with Jesus!

Amanda, Kathie & I prettied up the Youth House backyard the evening of our St. Bartholomew's Day to meet & greet our returning D-Group members and welcome all the new 6th through 12th graders who are curious about our group & more importantly curious about Christ!

Dynamic Super Steven Johnson (our Youth Ministry Director) led parents & D-Groupers in some lively cardio activity involving a "safe" river bank & the "troubling" waters to get us moving after the gathering and meet & greet & form fill-out. Literally jumping in the river or jumping to the bank. Steven got our hearts pumping and smiles abound when he shared that no matter where we find ourselves, Jesus is there. Be it the troubling waters or the safe shore. A lighthouse indeed! Steven then challenged us, D-Group, parents and leaders, to now be a lighthouse of Christ for our own community. As we learn about our friend Jesus, let us share the good news by example and action.

Our own Diocesan Youth Missioner, Kate Riley, was on hand to meet our youth & her fellow parishioners and tell them about all the great youth opportunities going on throughout our diocese.

As the sun began to set, we all expressed joy at gathering together, albeit compassionately distanced and masked and no food. With Reverend Flo on hand to enjoy the gathering and rub elbows with D-Group members and their parents, Kathie got her to bless us on our journey for the year. As the sun set deeper into the evening and I pulled away from St. B's, I felt joy emanating from this holy ground — an air of excitement and wonder for next Sunday's D-Group from all the "lighthouses."

- Marty is one of St. B's D-Group Leaders



Get Ready for D-Group!

St. B's D-Group meets on Sundays from 5:00 to 6:30 pm. We'll be meeting outdoors at the Youth House as long as the weather is nice. And we'll meet on Zoom when we can't be outside. If you need the Zoom link, please contact Leaders Kathie or Marty Clark (<u>peaceclark1@gmail.com</u>). Gather for fun, fellowship, and faith. Invite a friend!

Weekly Online Gathering

Youth in 6th grade through recent high school graduates are invited to join friends from around the Diocese at the **Weekly Online Gathering** on <u>Wednesdays from 6:00 to 7:30 pm</u>. Come for games, check-ins, prayers, and fellowship! Come for any or all! We're at <u>https://bit.ly/episcotime.</u>



Education for Older Peeps!

by Flo Ledyard

We lifelong learn about a lot of stuff! Sometimes it is courses in a school or online. Sometimes it is about different aspects of our jobs. Sometimes it is about just life - how to be an adult, a partner, a responsible citizen, etc., etc., etc., Well, lifelong learning is just as important regarding our faith as for anything else. Being open to learning stuff about the Scriptures, different spiritual practices, the arts and our local church history are all ways to know God better - which will make time with God more intriguing.

So here are some offerings to take advantage of:

Episcopal 102 (Scripture):

We meet via Zoom on Mondays from 5:30 to 7:00 pm. We're exploring some of the stories of the Bible. Everyone is welcome. Want more information? Contact The Reverend Carol Burnside at <u>shinyredtruck@msn.com</u> or text/call at 410-440-7394, or email Maggie Caldwell (<u>mcaldwell@stbs-md.org</u>) for the Zoom link

Episcopal 102 (The Episcopal Church)

This group meets via Zoom on Wednesdays from 5:30 to 7:00 pm. What does it mean to be an Episcopalian? If you are not an Episcopalian, this is a great opportunity to figure "us" out. If you are an Episcopalian, this is a great opportunity to remember why! Everyone is welcome. Want more information? Contact The Reverend Carol Burnside at <u>shinyredtruck@msn.com</u> or text/call at 410-440-7394, or email Maggie Caldwell (mcaldwell@stbs-md.org) for the Zoom link.

and Faith Forum

On Sunday mornings from 9:15 to 10:00 am, we have the gift of different topics to enjoy.

September 26: Heresies and How to Avoid Them

Most of us have a heretical thought or 2. Might not even be aware it is a heretical thought. So this Sunday we will explore some considerations about the Scriptures: whether what we believe about them is ok or not.

~ Led by Flo

October 10. Heresies and How to Avoid Them

So how do you get to go to Heaven? Kinda confusing. Lots of notions may not be exactly accurate. Come see where you reside on that journey!

~ Led by Joe Twist

October 24. Every Shut Eye Ain't Asleep

Sometimes the arts help us to explore and see God in some new, fresh and delightful ways. This book is a wonderful anthology of poetry by African Americans since 1945. Come listen and hear creative voices.

~ Led by Nicete Moodie

- Flo is St. B's Rector

The Great King David – A Man After God's Own Heart

by Chuck Sullivan

On September 28, 2021, The Reverend Thelma Smullen and Chuck Sullivan will begin an 8-week Zoom Bible study addressing the life of King David, the greatest king Israel ever had. We will meet at 11:45 am and end at 1:15 pm. We will also discuss the prophet and judge Samuel, as well as Saul, the first king of Israel, but the majority of our time will be with King David.

Samuel was the prophet who ruled Israel as the last of the Old Testament Judges. He anointed not one, but two kings in his lifetime. Samuel's mother Hannah, who was barren, promised God that if she was given a son, that boy would be devoted to Yahweh his entire life. Hannah's Prayer of Thanksgiving (1Samuel 2:1-10) is the model of Mary's Magnificat in the Gospel of Luke and one of the great prayers of the Old Testament. The 1st and 2nd Books of Samuel are packed with action and intrigue that even Hollywood has not been able to surpass.

Samuel anointed Saul, the first king of Israel. Saul was a man right out of Central Casting. He is described in chapter 9 of 1 Samuel as "There was not a man among the people of Israel more handsome than he; he stood head and shoulders above everyone else." (NRSV) Saul proved to be a good military leader, but his lack of compassion and his conflict with Samuel became clear as his reign as king continued. The true character of Saul becomes clear when David comes into his inner circle. In 1 Samuel 15:11 we hear God say, "I regret that I made Saul king, for he has turned back from following me, and has not carried out my commands." It's downhill for Saul from this point on. Did you know that the name of David appears in the Old Testament about 800 times, and about 60 times in the New Testament? David, a fair hair youth who literally killed a giant. A man who united the tribes of Israel for the first time. A man who captured the city of Jerusalem and made it his capital.

Here was a man who established with God the 'Davidic Covenant' (2 Samuel 7); that is, his line will reign forever. This covenant runs though the Old Testament and into the New Testament where we see Jesus being called 'Son of David.'

King David – favorite of God.

Yet – David was a sinner, a rebel, a warrior, an adulterer, among many other traits we would not normally associate with a person who is referred to in 1Samuel as 'A man after God's own heart.' David was human just as we are, so very human. So, what can we learn from this very complex man? Come and see.

Join us as we explore this major character of our history. Learn about David as a true lover of God who was truly blessed by God throughout his life time. Good times, bad times, family problems, political problems – problems from over 3000 years ago, yet how modern they sound to us.

To join us, please contact The Reverend Thelma Smullen (<u>tasmullen@gmail.com</u>) and/or Chuck Sullivan (<u>chgl@verizon.net</u>). Hope to see you on Zoom!

October 3rd Is Pledge Sunday

by Sara Schroeder

It has been our annual tradition to gather for a Stewardship Breakfast to celebrate the start of the pledge process. We have gathered to celebrate the gift of this faith community and to anticipate our commitment in the year ahead. A breakfast gathering is not an option this year, so we will have opportunity to gather virtually, by Zoom, on Sunday, October 3rd, for a fun round of trivia. In lieu of breakfast we will have prizes following the "breakfast" theme and we hope to provide a few moments of fun to celebrate the start of the annual pledge process.

By now, you may have received your pledge packet in the mail. The packets were mailed the week of September 20. Because of the continued struggle to connect during these "virtual" times, **every** household that was sent a pledge packet will receive a phone call by a member of the congregation. The purpose of the call will be to confirm that you received the packet, to answer any questions you may have about pledging, to offer assistance with other types of information you might want about St. Bartholomew's, and to simply check in. We are gifted with many dedicated people who work throughout the year to be stewards of our treasure. We make their work easier and more meaningful if we give them as complete a picture as possible of what our budget will be for our ministries in the year ahead. That is one reason that our pledges are so important before the current year comes to an end. On behalf of the Stewardship Committee, I encourage you to make a commitment in anticipation of the abundance of the year ahead.

I hope that you will join us for trivia before the 10:30 service on Oct 3rd! Who knows? You might win donuts!

— Sara is Chair of the Stewardship Committee



Some Property Updates

by Dave Murray

By the time you read this, the undercroft walls will be painted and new flooring will be installed. We plan to move the 40 West Assistance and Referral Center out of the Parish House and back into their newly renovated space in the undercroft on Saturday, October 9. Look for email updates and listen for announcements asking for help! Then we'll work on moving back the offices for Flo, Ted, and Maggie.

A lot of roof work will also be done next month to fix a partially rotten roof and better drain for rain water.

We're also working to repair/replace several door closers in the church.

— Dave is a member of the Property Committee

What You Should — and Should NOT — Throw Into St. B's Recycling Bins

by Drew Brown

St. B's has been recycling for many years. There is a large yellow recycling bin in the Kitchen, smaller blue recycling bins in the Parish Hall and Undercroft, and a marked dumpster in the parking lot. What should we be putting in these receptacles? Let's review Baltimore City single-stream recycling rules, which may be different from rules in the county where you live.

A visit to <u>https://publicworks.baltimorecity.gov/recycle-right</u> (or a glance at the poster in the PH kitchen) shows what goes in our single stream recycling:

What You Should Recycle:

- ✓ Metal: aluminum foil (clean!), aluminum foil pan, aluminum cans, steel cans, soda cans. Easy, right?
- ✓ **Glass**: glass bottles, glass jars. *Also easy, eh?*
- Paper: clean paper, cardboard, magazines, newspaper, church service bulletins, books. NOT dirty pizza boxes! The top half is usually clean enough to recycle, the bottom goes in trash or composting. (Grease ruins paper recycling stock. This is bad).
- ✓ **Plastic**: Milk jugs, vinegar jugs, plastic jars (like mayonnaise), plastic soda bottles and water bottles.

Rule of Thumb: Jugs, jars, and bottles **only**.

Note: Many plastic containers have a recycling symbol on them, but the City system does not accept them.

Rule 1: Make sure your items are rinsed and free from grease. Rule 2: When in doubt, throw it out (into regular trash).

What does *not* go into St. B's recycling bins:

- Trash such as tissues or napkins, either clean or dirty
- Plastic forks and cutlery
- *Plastic film a "tangler"
- *Plastic bags a BIG "tangler"
- Deli containers and plastic clamshells, such as pastry or berry containers
- Cups: waxed paper cups, Solo drinking cups, coffee cups, or fast food cups and lids *Rule of Thum*b: **No** cups!
- Light bulbs, batteries, coat hangers, etc.
- "Tanglers" cause sorting machines to jam at recycling sorting centers. Review the 2-minute video on You
 -Tube by the Baltimore County Department of Public Works called "Tangled Up!" at <u>https://</u>
 www.youtube.com/watch?v=EDipC5oJG_A

If you have something to recycle that the City does not accept in single-stream recycling but your home county does, please take it with you for your home bin.

In future articles, Creation Caretakers will review how to recycle other items that don't belong in single-stream recycling.

— Drew is a member of the Creation Caretakers

Many Hands

by Marty Clark

God called. Yes, an actual call. It wasn't a burning bush or even the wind. It was a phone call.

The voice was not what I was expecting. Soft, feminine, with authority, warmth & bold love. She knew what she needed and was calling. GOD sounds a lot like Maggie Caldwell.

It was a Friday, early afternoon. GOD needed me the next day. GOD needed me to be the lead, point of contact, the go-to guy. I felt like I'd be the fall guy. GOD assured me a message would go out to gather some help for me. Just a message, not a couple of calls to individuals, just "a message." I asked GOD to include a 9:00 am start time for the "help" when she put out her message.

Ok GOD, I'll do it. You've equipped me with health, the time, gloves, a truck (pretty sweet truck, if I must say), and help.

I showed that Saturday morning for GOD. GOD needed to move the Flea Market tables out from the undercroft of St. B's for storage in other buildings or scrapping the old, wooden, HEAVY tables from another era. You see, GOD is getting new flooring in her house. She needed helping hands. She got helping hands. I got helping hands! Doug Brookman, Susan Goering, David McClellan, Steven "straps" Miller, Robert Prince, and John Schumacher all answered God's call. These folks got in to it and kept a steady pace. Thank you! The prep before by others made our work go faster and all agreed GOD provided a very nice, Saturday morning for a cardio workout!

Interested in good, hands-on work for GOD? Stay alert to St. B's parish emails as you might find GOD calling you! Check your phone messages, too.

Financial Position as of August 31, 2021

- Financial information is provided by John Schroeder, Treasurer

August 31, 2021	Current Month	Current Month	Year to Date	Year to Date
	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget
Total Income	31,712.97	48,613.91	410,087.70	388,911.36
Total Expenses	<u>(44,123.15)</u>	<u>(51,258.76)</u>	<u>(377,176.54)</u>	<u>(410,070.30)</u>
Difference	(12,410.18)	(2,644.85)	32,911.16	(21,158.94)

What the Entire St. Bartholomew Flea Market Committee Wants You to Know...

by Mary Helen Sprecher

With your help, we had a great, successful, happy, and joyous Flea Market. The fact that it was profitable (making over \$10,000 for Outreach) was wonderful news, and we have everyone at St. B's to thank for it. The fact that this was a pandemic year made it even more amazing. THANK YOU.

Here's what we want you to know...

WE APPRECIATE YOU. Whether you prayed for good weather (those prayers were answered!), donated goods to the Flea Market, showed up and sorted in hot, sweaty weather, worked with set-up or break-down, worked the day of the Flea Market selling goods, and/or came and shopped, you were an enormous part of the many, many moving pieces that make up the big puzzle that is St. B's Flea Market. Thank you to everyone!

BUT THERE'S MORE. Sometimes, when people donate (in any form: goods, volunteer time or prayers), they think their contribution is dropping into a black hole — often, because they don't see what happens on the other end.

(Continued on page 20)



More from the Flea Market Committee...

(Continued from page 19)

THERE'S A DIFFERENCE, THOUGH: There is no black hole. Donating in any way to the Flea Market is like tossing a stone into a pond. Ripples go out into our community. People get items they need at a reasonable price, whether that means clothing (for themselves, their children, or others), housewares, books, electronics, or other goods. And people who are avid thrift shoppers often find things they love as well, whether it's items from the departments we just mentioned, or jewelry, garden items, seasonal goods, baskets, frames, art or collectibles.

But sometimes, we forget what else we were able to do, thanks to you. We have seen people become emotional at finding what they need because they are on a limited budget. We have seen people shopping with vouchers from organizations like Hope Harbor, who are able to obtain items that give them independence and dignity. We have seen that people who are in difficult situations are able to find things that make life just a little easier at a time when nothing in their lives is easy.





We have seen shelters and other organizations carefully going through our "free for all" items (T-shirts, jeans, sweats, etc.) to stockpile materials for their partners. We've seen people visit our book department to get reading materials for children and teens who need them. We've seen people visiting our pre-sale and being happy to purchase choice finds in a non-crowded situation.

And we're happy to say that all these purchases, as well as all of those who get them, are part of our community.



More from the Flea Market Committee...



AND AFTER THE FLEA MARKET, GOOD WORKS WERE STILL BEING DONE.

That means after 1:00 pm on Saturday, your contributions of donations, labor, and time still made a difference! Many of our unsold items were picked up by JunkLuggers — in fact, you probably saw their trucks on the lot if you were at the Flea Market. <u>What</u> <u>you may not know is that JunkLuggers donated not</u> <u>only three trucks but the employees to staff them,</u> <u>without charge, to St. B's. Yes, Really!</u>

Why did they do this? Because it's part of their mission to do good in the community. JunkLuggers has the goal of donating absolutely everything to local nonprofits or recycling it in an eco-friendly way. Their mission is to eliminate 100% of waste from landfills by the year 2025. We at St. B's think this is a GREAT goal, and we were proud to work with them this year.

Side note: Want to know who JunkLuggers benefits? Their website tells us their beneficiaries include Hope for the Warriors, Alliance Against Homelessness, Big

Brothers/Big Sisters of America, Furniture Sharehouse, and more. More information can be found at <u>www.junkluggers.com</u>.

AND THERE'S STILL MORE!

- Pet-related objects went to rescues and animal shelters.
- Wigs and hairpieces were donated to a cancer resource center that styles them and provides them free of charge to women who are undergoing treatment but who lack the funds to buy such items.
- Leftover running shoes went to a charity that recycles the soles and turns them into playground safety surfacing for schools in underserved areas.
- Prom, formal, and cocktail clothing was donated to organizations that supply formals to girls who can't afford new dresses.
- Costume clothing was donated to high school theater groups. (Go to a high school play or musical this year and maybe you'll get to see donations in action, and you'll get some great entertainment at a good price and support the community too!)
- Hunting Ridge Presbyterian Church collected children's books and toys at the close of the Flea Market and will distribute them during their annual Christmas drive.
- And of course, our Planet Aid bins will remain on the parish grounds, so that through the year, you can continue to help those in need by donating any clothing, shoes or textiles in fact, we encourage you to do so.

More from the Flea Market Committee...

(Continued from page 21)

For all the roles St. B's parishioners have played, we thank you. We are grateful for EVERYTHING you did to make this Flea Market a success, to help our community and to further our church's mission of doing good in the world.

— Co-chairs Mary Helen Sprecher & Debbie Wacker and the Flea Market Committee

A special THANK YOU to Debbie Wacker and Mary Helen Sprecher, pictured here, for your spectacular leadership throughout the planning, preparation, collecting, sorting, setting-up, selling, and cleaning-up of the Flea Market!



Stocking the Clothes Closet at Green Street Academy

by Amanda Harris

During the month of August, St. B's parishioner were invited to bring in new socks and underwear for the Clothes Closet at Green Street Academy. Here is a pic of the donations that I delivered to Green Street Academy on September 15

The Clothes Closet offers clothing items for students in grades 6—12 are who aren't able to afford them. The School-Community Liaison, Essence Smith, showed me their Resource Center where the clothes closet and other needed items are located. It is a beautiful, bright space designed by the GSA students. Ms. Smith said that the items donated would be really helpful to the students. The donation drive was a joint effort of the Outreach Committee and the Gospel Justice Group. Over \$600 of items were donated! Thanks to all who donated!



— Amanda is a member of the Outreach Committee and Co-Chair of the Gospel Justice Group

An Update from Hope Harbor

Hope Harbor

Together we will thrive

by Cathy Brookman

Hope Harbor continues in its state of discernment and transition. Due to challenges posed by COVID and staffing issues, we have been in a holding pattern for over a year.

For the last eight months we have been actively

discussing how our mission can be preserved and augmented by becoming part of another organization with a compatible ministry. Our discussions with that organization have been ongoing. Our focus is to discern how to share and amplify our ministries.

Our long-term staff member, Anna Williams, resigned at the end of April. She has been with Hope Harbor since its beginning and was the first hire. Her contribution to our organization has been enormous. She originally served as Family Outreach Worker and then became Director of Resource Development and Program. She assumed dual responsibilities, filling both jobs from January through April. It was through her guidance and coordination with 40 West that the Crab Feast became a successful annual fundraising event. Last year we had a take-out "Crab and Go" event that involved no small amount of creative collaboration! Boards of both organizations decided to forego this event this year due to the high cost of crabs and other factors.

> During our state of transition, we have not recruited new partners. The census is now at six partners/partner families, all of whom are considered stable. To ensure continued stability and

continuity, each partner was assigned a board member to serve as a contact person. School-aged children of our partner families received backpacks last month. In addition, families received a voucher for the Flea Market. As always, we greatly appreciate the support of the St. B's community and will keep you posted on future developments!

> — Cathy is President of the Hope Harbor Board of Directors



🎐 Mission

News from 40 West

by Peggy McMillan

40 West has had a successful summer. Many of our regular clientele have returned to the food pantry. In August we provided pantry food to 122 households. In addition, during August 77 households received TEFAP foods (The Emergency Food Assistance Program), and 82 households benefited from fresh boxed produce and frozen meats from Pantry on the Go.

We acclimated to our new but temporary home in the Parish House and anticipate returning to the undercroft in the next week or two.

It will be much brighter than before with new light bulbs and paint.

Although help with evictions has been almost nonexistent this year, now that the eviction moratorium is over, we should have customers requesting our help. There are state and federal funds to help with evictions if one's income was negatively impacted by the Covid-19 pandemic. Most of 40 West's clientele do not work, so they are ineligible for these funds.

This summer, 40 West helped 15 families apply for MEAP (Maryland Energy Assistance Program). The average grant was \$1,000 with some grants as high as \$2,000. The high amounts are because of Covid-19 funds from the state and federal government.

Thank you for your donations of food and clothing. Once we are back in the newly painted undercroft, we will again be able to accept donations. Our 40 West clientele especially enjoy the clothing you provide. I am grateful for all who help 40 West help others. Thank you!

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



Outreach to My Brothers' Keeper Continues

by Bonnie Kutch

My Brother's Keeper has been serving our neighbors in the Irvington community, and the surrounding areas, since the 1980's. In that time, they have come to understand that a guest who comes through the door looking to meet a primary need, may have secondary needs as well. For this reason, they take a wholistic approach to providing community services. Despite the increase in demand that they have experienced over the last 18 months, they have continued to expand the array of services that they provide.

- Lunch Service continues daily with a sit-down hot lunch provided one day a week and a 'Grab and Go' bagged lunch provided each day. They continue to serve 90+ meals, on most days.
- Forty-three people have recently found employment through the Job Hub service, which also offers job readiness and skills training.
- A Primary Care Health Clinic opened on-site in March, offering a full range of preventive health services. This brings health care and wellness support right into the community, facilitating access for residents.
- COVID Vaccinations are offered on-site monthly. October 5 is the next scheduled date, and no registration is required – spread the word. They will also offer COVID testing.
- Behavioral Health and Mental Health Support services have resumed, via telehealth or on-site visits.
- Through a relationship with Legal Aid, lawyers are on-site once a month to help guests with expungements, providing them access to jobs, training, and other opportunities by clearing past issues with court records.

St. Bartholomew's, through our Outreach Committee, continues to support My Brother's Keeper's meal service, shifting from cooking, delivering frozen casseroles, and providing volunteers to serve on-site meals to using our budget to purchase and deliver grocery items. Parishioners continue to donate items, as well. Donations of items that can be used for lunch preparations are always welcome. As they begin planning for Thanksgiving and Christmas Holiday services, or help is even more valuable.

My Brother's Keeper is located at 4207 Frederick Avenue, Baltimore MD 21229. Their number is 667-600-2950. Donations should be brought to the side door on Augusta Road, near the driveway. There is a doorbell, but please be patient as there is limited staff on-site.

For more information, visit their website at <u>https://</u> <u>www.catholiccharities-md.org/services/my-brothers-</u> <u>keeper/</u>

The staff at My Brother's Keeper continues to express their gratitude for the support that St. Bartholomew's offers through Outreach and individual donations. If you would like to know more about St. Bartholomew's support for My Brother's Keeper, please contact Bonnie Kutch at <u>bonnie_kutch@verizon.net</u> or Sharon Selleck at <u>scobleselleck@gmail.com</u>.

My Brother's Keeper – Items Needed for Food Service

ITEMS	
Fruit Drinks – Individual Serving Sizes	
Packages of Peanut Butter Crackers or Cheese	
Crackers	
Cookies and Desserts – Individually packaged	
Sliced Cheese – for sandwiches	
Carryout Plastic Grocery Bags	

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



Lucy Marshall; Vince Marsiglia; Donna Cartwright; Janet Churchill; Shirley Nathan Pulliam; Lillian Thomas; Celia Vismale; Ray Zeigler; Larry Brown; Sandra DeSilva; Mary Warfield; Jim Wright; Kathleen DeVale; Dana Przybyszewski; Melody Pitts; Cathy Brookman; Brad Schlegel; Margaret Schotto; Kate Henshall; Celeste Thurston; Peter Lee; Irene Hardy; Bonnie Kutch; Connie Lee; Bates Churchill; Stephanie Brooks-Wiggins; Carole Novian; Patricia Williams; 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; Nathan; Amanda Ash Freeland; Kyle Yoder; Barry and Peggy McCormick; Cathy Cain; Lynne Cain; Joan Clinton; Denise Kirkley-Cain; Dan Barr; James

Cooper; Pamela Stanton; Ricky Walston; Mary Warren; Diane McPhillips; Alison Jones; Williams and Kim Williams; Matt P. and family; Roland Daniels; Angie Arellano; Susan Clarke; Glenn Wightman; Yana Anderson; Kirk; Camille Gustis; Sue Fralic; Michele Mueller; Diane Allen; Andrea Barnard; Amanda Sanders, Darren and Ingrid; Barbara and Danny Honaker; Richard; Terry McIntosh; Art Smith; Jane Jeffrey; Bernard Keels; Nancy Maziarcyk; Young Sam; Sherry; 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.





St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church 4711 Edmondson Avenue Baltimore, Maryland 21229-1440 *office phone: 410-945-7263*

🎐 Worship & Christian Formation \, 🛩

Sunday Worship & Formation

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

The 10:30 services are also available on Zoom. Please visit our <u>website</u> to learn how you can join us.

Sunday Christian Formation

Faith Forum for Adults and Older Youth: Alternate Sundays from 9:15—10:00 am on Zoom.Fall dates include September 26, October 19 & 24, November 7 & 21, and December 5 & 19

Children's Word for Children Age 3 (by 09/01) — Grade 5: Beginning on October 3 during the 10:30 am service; in church or on Zoom.

Youth Group for Grades 6-12: Meet on Sundays at 5:00 pm-on Zoom or in person.

Weekday Worship & Formation

Noonday Prayer is said every weekday and Saturdays at 12 noon by parishioners (at home).

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.