

St. Bartholomew's Newsletter

July/August 2002

The Rector's Choice

Rev. David Pollock
Rector

Dear People of St. Bartholomew's:

After a very busy end of the program year in the month of June, culminating with the Sunday School awards and the parish picnic on Father's Day, we are ready to enter the more relaxed atmosphere of July and August. The summer is the time for a change of pace. We move the later Sunday service to 10 a.m. and have a less formal Sunday School to allow each of us to explore a different aspect of our spirituality. With school out of session and many vacations taken, the mix of the people in church is different. It allows us, when the opportunity presents itself, on our vacation to visit other churches to gather ideas for St. Bartholomew's. It is also the summer when we have the most visits by families and individuals looking for a new church home. I hope you will be aware of them and welcome them warmly to our church. You may also find the opportunity to ask friends or neighbors to come to church with you in the hope that they also might become a regular member.

With the coming of new members comes change. And change is a good thing. It was wonderful to hear Ann Fitts say that we welcomed seven new families this year and seven the year before. That has resulted in our plan for next year to expand the different classes for Sunday School but still keep its loving character. This change also gives more people an opportunity to help. The same goes for the choir, with these same new people have come several willing to share their singing talent in a more formal choir with regular practices and a new makeup. Please see Penny Jansen's music notes in this newsletter for more information.

Even with these changes, many things remain the same: the beautiful church building and worship space, the traditional worship, the welcoming neighborliness of a country church, the care and concern for each person whether adult or child and most importantly the sharing of the gospel of Jesus Christ and the message of love, forgiveness, joy and peace that we share as Episcopalians and Christians. Margaret and I continue to feel privileged to serve this community. May God continue to bless each of us as members St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church.

Peace and love in Christ,
David

Summer Schedule

Sunday Services are at
8:00 a.m.
and 10:00 a.m.

New Church Directory!

A parish directory, complete with photos, will be produced in the fall. The last Parish Directory was published in 1995. We have had many changes since then and this will give us all a chance to know each other better.

You will be asked to sign up for the photographing on either September 9 or 10 from 3 to 9:30. Sign up sheets will be available during the summer months. If you are not available to sign up, someone will contact you in late August. You'll hear more about this as the summer progresses. Interested in helping? Call Joyce Hatter at 301-926-6246.

Summer Sunday School

Our regular Sunday School program concluded for this year on June 16th. During the summer when our later service is at 10 a.m., we will continue to have Summer Sunday School, to provide continuity throughout the summer months.

Azalea Sale a Success

The Ladies Guild concluded their azalea sale and grossed over \$7,300. Thanks to the work of all of the Guild members and husbands, Bill Tait, Charley White and Byron Husted. The wind, rain and storms tried to interfere many times but we had a great sale anyway. "Thank you" especially goes to Dottie Tessier who loaded the azaleas each day, unloaded them again and was a great chairman too.

Our Monday Pot Luck luncheons and meetings will resume again in September. All women of the Parish are invited to join us as we continue to help the Parish in various ways.

We will prepare and serve two Lions Club dinners this Summer, in June and July each on the fourth Thursday. Many complimentary remarks are received at these special dinners. Anyone who would like to assist is welcome

Confirmation at the Cathedral

By: Lauren C. Fisher

Although not a perfect day weather wise, May 18th was still a special day for the eleven members of our youth confirmation class. After seven months of preparation, we went to the Cathedral of Saints Peter and Paul in Washington, D. C. to be confirmed and reaffirmed. We met at 9:30 A.M. in the Chapel of Saint Joseph of Arimathaea. There we, and 225 other confirmands from 25 different churches, found out what would happen during the service. Everyone was relieved to hear that we wouldn't be getting slapped by the Bishop as part of the ceremony.

At 10:00 we processed into the church. It was very special to be confirmed in such a pretty setting. It took a few minutes to take everything in, from the high ceilings and arches to the sparkling stained glass windows and interesting carvings. Once we'd said prayers, psalms, listened to the sermon, and sung a few hymns (noting how loud the organ was), it was time for the big moment. Each of us went up to Bishop Bartlett, who said a prayer and laid hands on us. Even though it was a very brief moment, it was still something that we will always remember. As we summed it up later, "it was a rush!" Next we had communion. As you can imagine in such a crowded church, one thing we all agreed on was that it was a very long service. It didn't end until about 11:30, but looking back on it, it was well worth the time spent. It was definitely a day to be remembered

Homecoming

Our next breakfast will be Homecoming on September 8, 2002. We are looking forward to good attendance as we kick off our Church year. We will be starting all of our activities in September and this will be a wonderful opportunity to bring back some old friends. Invite your out-of-town relatives. It will be the kickoff of our new church year and will give us all an opportunity to get involved, see what's happening and what you can do to participate. Mark your calendar. See you then!

Outreach

Our International Outreach Committee met Sunday, June 23rd to plan for the visit by Father and Mary Demo in August. As you know, Father Demo and his wife Mary are building an orphanage in Kenya, and St. Bartholomew's has joined them in this very special ministry. At the present time we still don't have a definite date for their arrival, but we believe it will be either August 11th or 18th. We will learn the exact date when Mary Demo arrives in the United States in July. The committee has tentatively planned the activities for the Sunday they will be with us. Father Demo will be preaching at our services and we are hoping Mary will also get the opportunity to speak. At the coffee hour after each service, we will have the Demo's join us, and at that time those wishing to talk with them will have the opportunity to do so. This will be on an informal basis. That evening we are planning to have a dinner for the Demo's, possibly a Pot Luck Supper. The entire congregation will be invited as well as families from our local community. After the dinner, Father Demo and Mary will present a program about the orphanage. At that time we will learn how the building is progressing, what the time frame is for its completion and what financial support is needed. We are hoping to have a full house to welcome the Demo's and show them what a wonderful partner they have in St. Barts! Please check the Sunday bulletin each week for more information regarding their visit.

*Irene Spurge
Chairperson*

Stewardship: A Reminder

Planning for the 2003 Stewardship Program has started. We'll do pretty much what was done last year except that we hope to involve more parishioners in the distribution of pledge materials to parishioners. The key to our successful 2002 program was the full participation of the Vestry in pledging and reaching out, along with other parish members, in contacting and talking to parish members about stewardship.

Our pledges for 2002 almost doubled to \$113,100. The average pledge also increased by \$700 and it was a great way to start the year being able to support parish growth, increased Sunday School activities, and other new programs.

A pledge goal has not been established yet but we do know that the partial subsidy for our Rector's compensation will end in May causing an approximate \$44,000 shortfall in parish revenues.

Stewardship materials and pledge cards will be distributed in September. Pledge Sunday will be held Sunday, October 20 followed that evening with our Stewardship celebration dinner. If you can help in the Stewardship effort, please let the parish office or myself know."

Dave Carvey

Parish Life

The Parish Life Committee thanks everyone who helped make a success of the breakfast honoring the confirmands in June. Our next breakfast will be Homecoming on September 8, 2002 (See Page 2.)

Coffee

We will continue coffee hours through the summer. If you can sign up for an 8:00 or 10:00, that would be great. We'll probably do coffee and iced tea.



Web Site

Visit our Web Site at:

www.saintbartholomews.org

It is a valuable resource. Tell your friends and those interested in St. Bart's to visit our site and see some of the many things we have to offer.

Basketball at the Church Picnic

By: Lauren C. Fisher

What a game! At the Father's Day picnic on June 16th, the 2nd annual basketball game was held. This year, however, it was given a new twist when the youth challenged a certain adult (you know who you are!) to a youth vs. adults game. It began with an early lead by the youth team, but soon the adults began to gain momentum, scoring several baskets in a row. The game progressed, going head to head for the most part. After an apparent rally by the adult team, which put them in the lead by a few points, the youth bounced back, tying up the close game. It was decided that we would go into sudden death overtime; whichever team made the next basket won the whole thing. The adults got first possession (they said it was the only fair thing to do), but lost the ball due to an aggressive defense. The youth planned their next move carefully. Then a member of the youth team fired up a jump shot and it went right in. Swish! The all-out contest was over. The final score is believed to be about 10 to 11, although there is no official proof of this. Next time you walk past the basketball hoop, take a look at the words on the pole. It's a new tradition: each year, the name of the winner will be painted on the pole. Practice up everyone. It's sure to be a close match, and enjoyable for the spectators, too.

Music Notes

Many great things happened this past year from instrumentalists, soloists, and new choir groups to more confident singing in general from the congregation. Below are some highlights ...

With over 120 years of combined service to St. Bartholomew's Church between them, Meredith Smith, Ed Smith, and Judy O' Neil were recognized in June for their contributions to the choir. Each was presented with a plaque given in appreciation for the many years of faithful service and dedication to St. Bartholomew's Church. Many thanks for all you've done!

St. Bartholomew Singers was started as an ad hoc choir that met on several occasions this year to prepare anthems for Christmas Eve and Easter. Out of this group, we discovered some excellent singing talent that we hope to use on a more regular basis in the fall. See the Parish Choir below....

The children's choir had a successful year rehearsing weekly and singing an anthem approximately one Sunday per month. We had 3 to 4 regular young girls with beautiful voices, warm smiles, and lots of confidence and enthusiasm.

Looking ahead to the fall, here are some dates to keep in mind:

- ◆ The children's choir will start up again on Sunday, September 8, 2002 at 10:30 a.m. This choir is open to all children ages 8-14 who would like to sing, learn to read music, and rehearse on a regular basis. Please join us!
- ◆ With the growth at St. Bartholomew's, we are now ready to put together a regular Parish Choir whose role will be to lead, support, model, and teach the congregation in the songs of the people, enhance some more complex hymns with harmony, descants, or fauxbourdons, and to perform some more complex anthems. This choir will rehearse twice a month, sit in the choir loft, and sing weekly. We will be holding choir auditions on the evenings of August 20th and August 22nd. Individual auditions will consist of singing hymn 450, "All hail the power of Jesus' Name", in parts, singing several scales, and sight singing. Please call Penny Jansen 301-330-6170 or e-mail skiersrus@comcast.net to schedule an audition.

Do you play an instrument? Would you be willing to share your talents with the congregation? I'm in the process of compiling a list of all instrumentalists, children and adults, to use with our musical program. Please let me know by contacting me at the above number for use in planning music for the fall.

*Penny Jansen
Music Chairperson*

Sunday School

Again we have completed a wonderful year with our Sunday school. We seem to get bigger each year and are truly blessed with a wonderful bunch of children. Each year we try to add to our program. This year we added a nursery thanks to the efforts of Allison Parker. We also began recognizing each birthday with a cake and a special prayer during the service. It has been a tremendous treat to see the faces of the children, parents and grand parents during the prayer for each child. Thanks to Reverend Pollock for starting this tradition at St. Bartholomew's. We have had a lot of fun and learned a lot. I can think of no greater ministry than working with the children and introducing them to God. Karen Parker and Vickie Fisher have worked tirelessly with lots of creative projects. The parents provided snacks without fail and a steady supply of Sunday scholars. We acknowledged each child at our graduation. A list of our graduates is on the right.

Regular school classes have stopped until the fall however we are continuing activities for the children during the 10:00 a.m. service which will supervised by the volunteers over the summer. *Please contact Bill Fitts 301-774-4575 to help.*

We are looking forward to next year. We are beginning to look a curriculum and have plans to divide up our classes due to our increased size. We plan on expanding into the Parish Education Building (Rectory). We are also going to begin a Journey to Adulthood program for our teen congregation members. We are going to need your time and talent in order keep our Christian Education program moving with our changing needs. Call Bill before he calls you.

"We are all children in the eyes of God"

Sunday School Graduation and Fathers Day Picnic

On June 16, 2002 we had a perfect picnic in our picnic grounds behind the church. The weather was comfortable and clear. Bill Tait handled the grill and provided delicious hamburgers, cheeseburgers, and hot dogs and many others set up the serving table. Thanks to all who helped.

It was a good opportunity to recognize the Sunday School students, honor the staff that so faithfully showed up every week (after planning during the week) to teach, coordinate, and otherwise make the School successful. We are very thankful for Bill and Ann Fitts' leadership of our Sunday School. Thanks to all the Dads for their love and support on this Father's Day! A report on the basketball game is on the previous page.

Sunday School Graduates

Krystal Augustin
Kendall Bray
Michael Barberi
Mycala, Jordan, & Josh Costa
Emma, Jamie, & Charlotte Craig
Alex Duffy
Kendra & Conor Elliston
Wade Henderson
Ellen Jansen
Eric Kaufmann
Kim, Liz & Megan Kelly
Christopher & Amy McMurtry
Ryan Madden
Morgan Middleton
Elias Paul
Sarah, Rachel & Hanna Penkert
Carley Pera
Maggie Schneider



Scheduled Activities

Summer Sunday Schedule

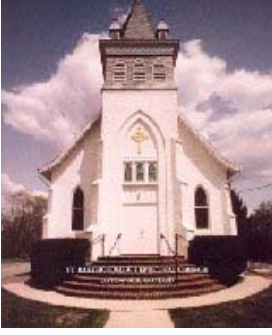
- 8:00 a.m.** The Holy Communion
10:00 a.m. The Holy Communion - first and third Sundays
Morning Prayer - second, fourth and fifth Sundays
Sunday School Activities are held during the 10:00 service
Sunday Fellowship Coffee Hour follows both Sunday services

Regular Weekly Schedule

- Mondays** Monday Evening Bible Study will resume in September
Wednesday Wednesday Morning Bible Study will resume in September

Upcoming Events

- 7/10/2002** Growth Committee Meeting
7/17/2002 Vestry Meeting — 7:30 p.m.
No Vestry Meeting in August
- 9/8/2002** Homecoming Sunday Breakfast
Let's start the Church Year with a joyful breakfast!



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