

# St. Bartholomew's Newsletter

July/August 2003

## The Rector's Choice

*The Rev. David Pollock, Rector*

Dear People of St. Bartholomew's:

Spring finally came and with it came summer. I hope you are enjoying the warmer sunny weather we have been having at the end of June. The long hard winter and the long wet sunless spring have taken its toll on all of us. But during these unusual times we have been able to count on the consistent quality of our worship and our Sunday School and Bible Study Programs. We each have had the opportunity to deepen and strengthen our faith and knowledge of God. The spring program year concluded with a wonderful Father's Day Picnic and Sunday School graduation. A big thank you to all who made the year so meaningful.

We are ready to enter the more relaxed atmosphere of July and August. Summer is the time for a change of pace. We moved 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 in 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.

Unfortunately for St. Bartholomew's, the Jansen family found out that Eric was being transferred by Bechtel to Spokane, Washington. They will be moving in late July. We will particularly miss our organist, Penny Jansen. She has been a joy to work with and has helped us move so far in our music program. Please see the article elsewhere in this newsletter by our Director of Music, Mother Pollock with more on Penny and also Laura, the director of the Junior Choir. We will miss them greatly. We are fortunate to have as our new organist Marilyn Carollo, a new parishioner with many years experience as a church organist. Please welcome Marilyn Carollo to her new role in the parish.

*Peace and love in Christ,  
David*



## Summer Schedule

It's summertime already! (or finally!) Our summer schedule started on Sunday, June 22, 2003. Services are at 8:00 and 10:00 a.m. on Sunday. There will be no Wednesday Communion service.

Wednesday morning Bible study has ended for the summer and will resume in September.

### 10:00 a.m. Coffee Hour Schedule

Deborah Turton will now be organizing the 10:00 coffee hour. She'd like to invite everyone to sign up for a Sunday. Whether you enjoy stopping at your favorite bakery or one of your favorite hobbies is baking, we'd love to have you share your talents with us. If you have questions, please call Deborah at 301-482-0675.

## Our Service People

For anyone wishing to send a card or letter to Laura Grimes her address is:

2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant Grimes,  
Laura  
Unit # 91716  
APOAE09372-1716

## Summer Schedule

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

**Looking Forward**

The vestry at its June meeting did some brainstorming on what St. Bartholomew's special mission should be in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century. On the back wall of the undercroft you will see the results of that brainstorming. The vestry would like input from each and everyone of you on your ideas. You will find plenty of magic markers, please write your ideas and thoughts on the newsprint under the categories presented. Here is your chance to help shape the direction of our church! Add YOUR hopes, dreams, goals, targets, to the list. If you have questions, please ask any vestry member.

**Pastoral Visits and Care**

The Rev. David Pollock is available for pastoral visits and care. If you know of someone who needs or wants pastoral care, please contact the church office or Dr. Pollock at (301) 948-8201.

**A Note from Penny Jansen**

Dear Friends,

It's hard to believe that it's been five years since Eric and I wandered in to St. Bartholomew's looking for a church to call home. Synthia (or Cynthia. I never knew quite how to spell it) was the organist. Synthia *never* made mistakes, *never* complained, and *always* played the good old favorites from the 1940 Hymnal. So why would anyone want to replace Synthia? Maybe it had something to do with her being a machine. In any event, what happened next is still vague...I think it had something to do with a well-meaning husband, and brave, assertive members of the congregation, Bill Fitts and Dave Carvey. The next thing I knew I was sitting behind an organ muddling my way through a Morning Prayer service on an ancient, out of tune organ. (I mention Morning Prayer because the canticles are much harder to follow than communion service music, wouldn't you agree, Dave?) I was nervous, but members of the congregation reassured me with praise and encouragement knowing they would rather have wrong notes than a machine leading the Sunday hymns.

Not only were you supportive of my early attempts to play, but you also sent me to *The Leadership Program for Musicians* to give me the knowledge and skills needed for this position. Also, within months, the Ladies Guild mentioned that they would be purchasing a brand new, beautiful, American Guild of Organist regulation, Rogers organ. They had the money saved up but they had just been waiting for an organist. I knew I was supposed to be excited and grateful, but I was thinking, "Oh no. I am *not* an organist. You've got this all wrong. Go hire a real organist and *then* buy an organ." Luckily, you couldn't hear my thoughts. And, I've been forever appreciative of the opportunity to play on such a beautiful instrument. Not only that, I was able to hear an accomplished organist during the lovely, memorable organ dedication recital.

Through all my self-doubts as an organist, God prevailed and kept me practicing and playing. Gradually the Sunday morning nausea subsided, except on festival services like Christmas and Easter, and my confidence increased. The church began to grow, new musical talent appeared in the congregation both in children and adults, and David and Margaret Pollock arrived with their enthusiasm, ideas, and talents. Thanks to the gifts of many, St. Bartholomew's now has a vibrant music program including adult and children choirs, instrumentalists, composers, and hymn writers. The music program is sure to grow and flourish in the years to come.

Thank you, St. Bartholomew's, for the faith, support, encouragement, and kindness you have shown my family and me for the past five years. We have grown in ways I never would have thought possible. Moving to a new place is always hard but we leave having known the strength, knowledge, and love of God, and the fellowship of some wonderful neighbors here at St. Bart's.

Best regards until we meet again,

Penny

## Music at St. Bartholomew's

One of the great pleasures for me, of doing music at St. Bartholomew's this past program year, has been working with Penny Jansen, our organist. And it is a great sorrow that I now have to adjust to her leaving us, as the Jansen family moves to Washington state. Penny's last Sunday at the organ will be July 20th.

A church musician is, I think, unlike any other sort of musician -- because we do not perform, we offer gifts to God. And I have experienced Penny as a wonderful church musician -- offering her keyboard skill, her musical sensibilities, her faith, her spirit, and her glad and willing nature to our worship. Together, Penny and the choir and I have been musical entrepreneurs this year, which has been a thrilling and sometimes risk-taking process. I do believe that God provided Penny to us for that unique and wonderful experience. I will miss her greatly, and pray that God blesses Penny with some fine new opportunities to offer her musical gifts.

Other losses to St. Bartholomew's in the Jansen move are Laura, who has also been a musical entrepreneur, developing our wonderful junior choir and singing in the adult choir -- and younger sister Ellen, a singer in the junior choir. Watching Laura with these younger girls, it is a pleasure to see how gently she teaches and encourages, and how clearly she leads. Not only have the girls quite impressively increased their choral skill, but Laura has also helped them bring friendship and faith to the expression of music. And she is, herself, the kind of older girl that younger ones look up to. On Sundays when the junior choir sings, it is a blessing to us all, and I know that God smiles! I have no worries that Laura and Ellen will find a happy new chapter of life in Washington, but we will miss them greatly.

And now -- what next? I am pleased to say that a new St. Bartholomew's parishioner, Marilyn Carollo, will begin as organist on July 13, when Penny is in Washington looking for a new house for the family, and will continue after Penny's last Sunday on July 20th. Marilyn is an accomplished musician and longtime church organist, and we are blessed to have her with us.

As to the junior choir: I am happily looking forward to directing the junior choir, when we begin again in the fall. So here's something to think about over the summer:

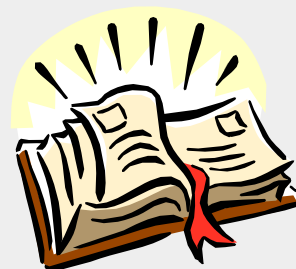
**\*\*\*All children who are old enough to be good readers (of words, not music necessarily) yet too young to sing in the adult choir belong in the junior choir! That includes BOYS.\*\*\***

One final tantalizer: over the summer, an anonymous group of very shy St. Bartholomew's instrumentalists -- who have such items as violins and flutes tucked away at home -- will be practicing a piece of Bach. I think once we get together to play, the shyness will vanish, and we will discover the St. Bartholomew's Ensemble. Something to look forward to!

Peace and love in Christ,  
Margaret +

## Sunday School Summer Sessions

The Sunday School Summer Program will be held during the 10:00 a.m. Sunday services. For anyone wishing to oversee one or more summer sessions please contact Bill Fitts for more information and to sign up. The kids love it and it provide parents the opportunity to attend church services.



## Bible Study

The Monday Evening and Wednesday Morning Bible Studies will resume in September.

Come join one of these dynamic groups in the Fall.

**Homecoming**

Our next breakfast will be Homecoming on September 7, 2003. 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!

**Stewardship:  
A Reminder**

Planning for the 2004 Stewardship Program is now getting underway..

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

**The Living Church**

The Living Church web site is:

[www.livingchurch.org](http://www.livingchurch.org)

**The General Convention of the Episcopal Church**

One of my ministries outside the parish is as an elected Deputy to the General Convention of the Episcopal Church. Since 1979 I have represented this diocese five times as a deputy and three times as an alternate. The General Convention of the Episcopal Church meets every three years to make the decisions that guide the national church in its ministry. It is a legislative body modeled after our American Congress. There is a House of Deputies, like the House of Representatives, with four clergy and four lay persons elected to represent the almost 100 dioceses of the Episcopal Church. There is also a House of Bishops where all the Bishops of the Episcopal Church, active and retired meet in a legislative body just like the Senate.

The two houses have many committees to prepare legislation and in order for a resolution to pass, it must be approved in the same form by each house. There are two kinds of legislation, canonical changes, which are mandatory on the church and resolutions, which indicate the position of our church as determined by the deputies present as elected representatives of their diocese.

The convention lasts for twelve days. In addition to legislation there is worship and bible study every day, educational programs valuable to all and an exhibit hall where all Episcopal groups can show their wares and sell their ideas. This year's convention is in Minneapolis, Minnesota from July 29<sup>th</sup> until August 9<sup>th</sup>.

I have been assigned to the Ministry Committee. Our job will be to propose changes to our canons having to do with how people are ordained and what they can or cannot do after they are ordained. Our time will be spent half in legislative committees and half in legislative sessions. The day begins at 7:30 a.m. with committee meetings and ends at 10 p.m. with diocesan caucuses. I love the intricacies of legislative process and how that process can be used to do good things.

Some of the issues that we will be dealing with this year are:

- continuing to make the ministry open to all qualified candidates,
- approval for all new bishops elected within the 90 days prior to the General Convention,
- election to national boards such as the Pension Fund and the Executive Council that governs the church between conventions,
- developing a rite for the blessing of same sex unions,
- how much money we as a church should spend on missionary work and evangelism.

Some of these issues are controversial and you may hear some sensational reports from the convention. Please hold your judgment until you hear a report from me. I will hold two sessions at 9 a.m., between the services, on August 17<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup>. Please pray for all of us as we seek to do God's will for the Episcopal Church.

Peace and love in Christ,  
David

*"The Living Church", an independent weekly magazine serving Episcopalians, is an excellent source for information about the General Convention and the issues being addressed this year. Drop by the office and read about it.*

## Mirembe Children's Home

Construction on the orphanage for girls in Migori, Kenya that St. Bartholomew's has been funding is approaching completion. Father and Mrs. Demo hope to begin housing girls in the Mirembe Children's Home in August, during the school break, if all goes well. "Mirembe" means "Peace" in the local language, Luya, and the Demos gave that name to the home in hopes that living there will bring peace and wholeness to these struggling girls.

Meanwhile, St. Bartholomew's International Outreach Committee is turning its attention to sponsoring as many of the twelve girls as possible. One child will be sponsored by St. Bartholomew's Church, from the international outreach budget, and one child will be sponsored by members of the International Outreach Committee. In addition, members of the committee will seek sponsorships from friends, neighbors, coworkers, and organizations outside the parish.

We invite other parishioners of St. Bartholomew's also to see if they know individuals or organizations who would like to make this difference in the life of a child. To make it easier, the International Outreach Committee has prepared a brochure describing the girls and this ministry of St. Bartholomew's, and inviting sponsors. One of these brochures is enclosed in this newsletter.

As you will see from reading the brochure, a sponsor must make a commitment for one year, to contribute at least \$25 a month. Fully sponsoring a child amounts to \$75 a month, and this covers room, board, tuition, books, clothing, some special lessons and activities, and miscellaneous needs. The girls will live together in the Mirembe Children's Home, and will attend nearby schools as day students.

An important thing to understand, is that in Kenya only primary education is free to all -- and that provision has only been in place since the new government was elected half a year ago. If any child is to be educated through the secondary level, they must pay private school fees, buy their own books, buy their own uniforms, pay for activities, and so on. The girls of Mirembe, orphaned by AIDS, have no such resources without our help.

We hope you will continue to give your active and prayerful support to this work of St. Bartholomew's Church. If you have any questions, or if you would like to become a member of the committee, please speak to one of the International Outreach Committee members: Lee and Tom Briggs, Art Elgin, Bill Fitts, Cynthia Phillips, Mother Pollock, Irene Spurge.

## Ladies Guild News

The Ladies Guild concluded their successful azalea sale in June. Thanks to the work of all of the Guild members and husbands. The wind, rain and storms tried to interfere many times but we had a great sale anyway.

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.

You may have noticed that our church sign in front of the church has been looking worn and tired. The Ladies Guild, at the request of the Vestry, is paying to have the sign refurbished.

## Dedication of New Altar Hangings

The Green Altar Hangings are given by Thomas Owings, Jr. and Mary Ruth Bogley in memory of Thomas Owings, Sr., Elizabeth Dorsey Gillis, Ardean and Maude Owings and Hazel Owings Lowry.

## Dedication of New Cruets

The new cruets are given in memory of Hazel Owings Lowry and Christopher Lowry by Arthur, Jeanne, Brian and Suzanne Lowry

## Scheduled Activities

### Upcoming Events

September 7 St. Bartholomew's Homecoming Sunday

### 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  
2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays J2A meets in the PLC (during Sunday School)  
Sunday Fellowship Coffee Hour follows both Sunday services

### Regular Weekly Schedule

Wednesdays Bible study will resume in September

Thursdays Sr. Choir rehearsal will resume in September



St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church  
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21615 Laytonsville Rd.  
Laytonsville, MD 20882

St. Bartholomew's Church  
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12:00 -- 3:00 p.m.  
weekdays

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#### Web Address:

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