

St. Bartholomew's Beacon

*for members and friends of St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church; Laytonsville, Maryland
September 2007*

Dear Friends:

Autumn is my favorite season of the year. I love the cool, dry air and the colors of the autumn leaves and fall flowers. *"The earth brought forth vegetation: plants yielding seed of every kind, and trees of every kind bearing fruit with the seed in it. And God saw that it was good."* Gen. 1:12 I treasure every day and give thanks to God.

As the days get cooler, we are reminded that winter is approaching and what seems like the end of good things. However, for most of our lives, autumn has also been a time of new beginnings and new life. It is the beginning of a new school year for 12+ years of our lives, new school supplies, new clothes, new calendar, new friends and a fresh start. Autumn is also the beginning of a new program year for churches, towns, clubs, etc. This fall I have some new programs to introduce to you: weekly Sunday morning forum, weeknight Bible Study, and an evening for women to pray and walk a Labyrinth.

On October 4, at 7 pm, Bishop John Chane will officially mark the beginning of my leadership with a Celebration of a New Ministry. He will preach, celebrate Holy Eucharist, and install me officially as your new Rector. I will make promises to serve God and this congregation, committees will present tokens of their ministry to me, and neighboring clergy and town officials will be witnesses. A reception follows in the Parish Hall. Reserve the date and time.

St. Bartholomew's is no longer in transition – you have a new rector who plans to bring joy, stability and creativity. Some things will remain the same, but there will be also a few changes and a few *new* things to renew the parish's energy and attract new members. With a new rector come new ideas and new traditions, as well as honoring tried and true ideas and past traditions. So autumn is a time to remember the past and to prepare for the future. I am so happy to be among you and feel energized and inspired by your commitment and faithfulness.

Faithfully yours in Christ,

Carol

St. Bartholomew's Mission

To Proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ through the power of the Holy Spirit to a diverse community gathering in Laytonsville.

How We Accomplish This

- Practicing hospitality to newcomers
- Providing fellowship & pastoral care
- Encouraging education & growth for all ages
- Providing inspiring Episcopal worship
- Serving the world in Christ's name
- Valuing our traditions and looking to the future

Our Vision

With the guidance of the Holy Spirit and leadership of our Rector, we will continually grow as individuals and community in the knowledge and love of the Lord.

Leadership to Achieve This

Ministers	The Congregation
Bishop	The Rt. Rev. John Bryson Chane
Rector	The Rev. Dr. Carol M. Flett
Sr. Warden	Bill Fitts
Jr. Warden	Deborah Turton
Treasurer	Tim Smith
Registrar	Kathy Little
Vestry Members:	
Tim Smith	Jeff Taylor
Evelinda Torres	John Kaufmann
Judy O'Neil	Lonnie Pera
Jeff Bergsten	Charley Hendricks
Jean Sommerville	
Organist	Vacant
Sunday School Coordinator	Ann Fitts
Webmaster	Harry Bennett

Bulletin Notes

Brief meeting of the 8 am congregation on September 9TH, 9 AM, to discuss the music at the 8 am service. Those who regularly attend the 8 am service are invited to remain after the service to discuss the options for musical preludes.

New starting time for later service beginning Sun. September 9, 10:30 am - NOT 11:00 am. In order to bring the two congregations closer together, the second worship service and Sunday School will begin at 10:30 am beginning Sun. Sept. 9, with a weekly Sunday forum in between.

Sunday Forum every Sunday beginning Sept. 16 from 9:15 – 10:15 am

Gather at 9:15 am in the Educational Building for brief fellowship and a cup of coffee. The program will start at 9:30 am. Members of the 8 am service are encouraged to remain for the program and members of the 10:30 am service are encouraged to come early. Each week there will be a brief presentation on a topic that is relevant to Christian living, the mission of the Church and contemporary issues facing us. Topic for Sept 16, 23 & 30 - "What do Episcopalians believe?" Topic for Oct. 7 & 14 is "Global Climate Change: Facts and Solutions"; October 21 & 28: "Spirituality 101".

The Local Outreach Committee is collecting school supplies for an elementary school (K-5). We'd like to help 30 students - 5 in each grade. Our plan is to purchase book bags and fill them with donated school supplies the afternoon of Sept 9. The needed supplies are the basics: spiral notebooks, composition books, pencils, pens, erasers, safety scissors, glue sticks, markers, 3-ring binders, dividers, loose leaf paper, etc. We'll also accept monetary donations. Look for collection bins at the back of the church and plan on joining us on the 9th.

Wed. Evening Bible Study group forming for September, 7:30 - 9:15 pm

The group will meet every Wednesday for 14 weeks beginning Sept. 12 – Dec. 19, except the Wed. night of Vestry meetings (4th Wed/month). Carol will facilitate and teach the program, using a curriculum from *Kerygma - In the Beginning – a study of the Book of Genesis*. No previous Bible study necessary, just bring a Bible and \$22 payable to St. Bart's, for a copy of the study guide. A group of eight is necessary for the group to form. Consider joining even if you cannot attend every meeting. Contact Carol

The rector is forming a Worship Advisory Committee with representatives of the 10:30 am service so parishioners may share their "views from the pews", and so Carol can offer some historical and liturgical education on the Holy Eucharist and Morning Prayer in the Episcopal Church. 1-2 members of the Adult Choir, Acolytes, Ushers, Readers, Chalice Bearers and Altar Guild are needed. Please contact Carol. First meeting, Sun. Sept. 16, 12 noon. Additional Chalice-Bearers are needed for the later service. Training provided. Contact Carol

"America" will not be sung after the Doxology at 10:30 am service for Sundays in September. The singing of a national hymn at the time chosen interrupts the flow of the Eucharistic liturgy since it follows an anthem and the Doxology. A national hymn is not traditionally sung in worship every Sunday in the Episcopal Church. Although they are found in our 1982 hymnal, they are intended for occasional use on Federal holidays or during a national crisis or thanksgiving, etc., and there are several options. We will sing a national hymn in worship on occasion in the future. To further streamline the service, portions of the Prayers of the People will also be abbreviated.

The new Administrative Assistant, Katie Glensor, begins Wed. Aug. 29. The new Office Hours are Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays from 10-3 pm. The building will be closed on other days. Phone messages are checked daily. In a pastoral emergency, please call the Rev. Dr. Carol Flett, at home at 301-530-5221

Senior Warden Letter -- Bill Fitts

I hope that everyone has had a wonderful summer. I know that our family has had a lot of fun going to the beach and catching up with family members. It has been an eventful summer at St. Bartholomew's also. Reverend Flett has begun her ministry with us and is off to a great start. We will soon have a new administrative assistant (Katie) who starts at the end of August. We will have youth and adult Christian education opportunities on Sundays between the services. Arrangements are being made to provide nursery services for the very young during the late service. We are still searching for a new music director/organist; however Reverend Flett has made arrangements for supply organists for the near future. All and all it has been a very busy summer at St. Bartholomew's. September marks the beginning of our Sunday school program with our annual hay ride and homecoming. I hope to see all of you, and I hope you tell your friends and neighbors to come also. This year we will have two hay rides one during the service for the Sunday school and one after for anyone else. See you in church.

Stewardship – Jeff Bergsten

As we work our way towards fall, and the annual pledge campaign, it's a good time to take stock of our blessings. Part of that is to look at all the things we have. But it's also to realize that what we have has actually been *given* to us. In that light, we can see that contributing to the church isn't giving up, it's giving back. This is a showing of appreciation for all that we have. And the many different offerings can be pooled together to support St. Bart's varied ministries. That should provide us all with a feeling of satisfaction (so will the celebration brunch in October).

We know that gifts to God will be put to good use and that they will flow back to us. "Give and it will be given to you. A good measure..." (Luke 6:38) The benefits produced by our giving can be truly inspiring. To know that we have helped a family in need is often more fulfilling than any possession we could obtain for ourselves.

Fellowship

Summer activities included an outing to Olney Theatre's production of "Godspell" on July 8th. All enjoyed the music, and colorful, sometimes

humorous, yet certainly touching interpretation of the Gospel according to Matthew.

A lively ice cream social on August 24th included card and board games inside, and basketball and other games outside.

Coffee hour has continued to be a wonderful time to share and visit with the parish family. Many thanks to everyone who has provided refreshments!

On September 9th all will gather for our welcome home Sunday celebration. Every committee should prepare now to have a display, sign-up sheets, and description of what you do to share with others. We hope to have a wonderful turnout in the undercroft for fellowship and sharing about the various groups within our church.

Fall and winter fellowship activities will feature pumpkin carving and potluck supper in the undercroft on Friday, October 26; caroling from the education building on December 14 or December 16; and the pancake supper on Tuesday, February 5, 2008. Mark your calendars and join fellow parishioners for these special events!

Women's Faith Circle

In May a group of women met to discuss formation of a new group with a focus of spirituality and support of the women of the church. Subsequent months saw fascinating discussions of God's will and the challenges in our lives, how women should consider working toward self improvement and gender justice instead of service only, and our environmental responsibility for the earth that God created for us.

On September 18, 6:15 pm, Rev. Carol Flett will discuss the history of labyrinths before we take our own spiritual walk on the Labyrinth she will set up outside, surrounded by votive candles. (See below.) On October 16th we'll meet at the home of Amanda Becker to learn about the history of St. Bartholomew's.

The evenings begin at 6:15 p.m. All women of the parish are invited to attend and to bring appetizers and desserts to share. Please join us.

Please contact Jean Sommerville at 301-924-0128 or wilbursfriend@aol.com if you have questions or ideas either for fellowship events or the Women's Faith Circle.

An Evening of Prayer for Peace

The Women's Faith Circle invites adult and teenage women to the potluck supper in the Parish Hall at 6:15 pm, followed by an opportunity to walk the path of a labyrinth and pray for peace in yourself and in our world. Take a pilgrimage to the heart of God by walking and praying along a path walked by Christians for centuries. Bring your women friends for this special event.

St. Bartholomew's Christmas Festival

The 33rd Christmas Festival will be here before we know it. We have a good start on this year's Festival to be held Nov. 30 and Dec. 1. It includes many of the same activities as in past years, including crafts, baked goods, café serving lunch and dinner, white elephant sale, silent auction gift baskets, live Christmas wreaths, Holy Chocolate and Bishops Blend sales and a raffle of a quilt. We will have outside crafters again, with returnees Mike Vore and his woodwork plus his new stained glass work, Meredith McEver with her pottery and Rosey Poole with her jewelry. This year Terry Tunstall and Fuzzy Bear Station won't be able to join us, so we are looking for someone to fill in. Any suggestions, contact Morna.

We have several workdays scheduled in the next few months to continue sewing, painting and crafting. Dates are Sept. 11, Oct. 9 and Nov. 13 and Nov. 27 from 10 am to 1 pm; Sept. 25, Oct. 23 and Nov. 27 from 6 pm to 9 pm; so mark your calendars. All parishioners are invited to join us. Remember – no special skills needed; just enthusiasm. Questions, call Sonja or Morna about the day group or Nancy Willett (301-253-2673) about the evening group.

Everyone in the parish has special skills, so even if you can't join us at the workdays, consider making something for the festival. We particularly need decorative painters and wood crafters.

Bake Sale – Nancy Harding (301-926-0435)
Everyone rallied to make plenty of baked goods last year, so keep up the effort. Make an extra loaf of bread, cake or batch of cookies and freeze it. Note: We need to be in compliance with the county Department of Health and Human Services requirements. You must provide us with a list of ingredients that went into your baked goods. We don't need the actual recipe, just a list of ingredients. And, if you use a mix, just provide the name of the mix.

Additionally, we cannot offer for sale any items made with cream fillings.

Wreath Sale - Dana Burton (410- 446-8461)

Who wants to be thinking about snow and holiday shopping when it's still hot outside?

When it comes to St. Bartholomew's tradition of wreaths at the Christmas Festival, a little forward thinking pays off. We just can't ask our favorite North Woods Guy to pile on an extra 120 wreaths when he goes to clear the snow. The balsam wreaths we sell are 25 inches in diameter, come fully decorated, individually bagged and are reasonably priced at \$22.

For 2007 the Festival Committee is expanding its product line to include 25' foot lengths of balsam fir garland, priced at \$28. We really need your help selling the wreaths and the garland. Consider making copies of the order form and distributing them in your neighborhood and at the office. We'll have extra order forms in the back of the church or you can print one from the Web site. The wreaths also make a great gift or thank you to relatives, neighbors and friends. Pre-ordering is required and your deadline for ordering is Oct. 25.

Holy Chocolate and Bishops Blend – Robin Horton (301-854-6181; jr3horton@verizon.net)
We found the addition of the sales of Holy Chocolate and Bishops Blend coffee to be worthwhile and are offering them again. Prices are \$11 for the can of hot chocolate mix and \$11 for the bag of coffee. Both are available in a variety of flavors. Not only are they delicious for your own personal use, but they make great gifts. If you need a hostess gift or gifts for people in the office, either is perfect. We do need to pre-order both, and the deadline is Oct. 25. You'll find an order form on the church Web site.

Silent Auction Gift Baskets – Jamie Kaufmann (301-947-5741)

It is time to begin our basket collections for the upcoming Christmas Festival. At an evaluation meeting following the 2006 Festival, a suggestion was made to add some smaller baskets. So, in addition to the six large baskets traditionally sold via the silent auction format, six smaller baskets will also be sold this year. Various church groups are requested to collect 8-12 items to fill each of the six small themed baskets. A basket coordinator for each group will arrange for the collections. Jamie will contact the coordinators as well as provide both the large and small baskets.

As in the past, all parishioners are encouraged to contribute to the large baskets as well. Jamie will collect gift certificates from local proprietors to add to the baskets. If anyone wishes to purchase a gift certificate and/or donate a service certificate (baby sitting, gardening, baking, etc.) to any basket, this would also be greatly appreciated. By having both small and large baskets, everyone's budget can be accommodated at the Festival, where the baskets will be sold through a silent auction. All proceeds benefit St. Bartholomew's Church, so please PARTICIPATE.

The six themed **small baskets** are assigned to the following groups: Altar Guild (Wine & Cheese), J2A (Teen Time, fun items for ages 12-17), Ladies Guild (Kitchen Implements), Ladies Night Out (Literature & Travel), Sunday School (Fun & Games, fun items for ages 4-11) and Vestry (Family Fun).

The six themed **large baskets** to be filled by all parishioners:

Picnics (Collection beginning in September)
Pamper Yourself/Sports (Collection beginning in September)
Entertaining (Collection beginning in October)
Seasons and Holidays (Collection beginning in October)
Christmas (Collection beginning in November)
Winter Wonderland (Collection beginning in November)

White Elephant Sale – Karen Parker (301-253-4256)

Did you put some of that unseasonably cooler weather last month to use cleaning out the garage and attic? If you did, don't toss those treasures; save them for the St. Bart's ever popular White Elephant sale at the Festival. More information to come.

Last year's Festival was a wonderful success for our church community. The funds went toward more improvements in the undercroft, including the carpet and upgraded bathrooms. (We plan to announce our next project in an upcoming bulletin.) It was great that so many members of the parish were involved in the Festival. We are looking forward to another great festival and invite all parishioners to participate in St. Bartholomew's 33rd Christmas Festival. We'll have a display Homecoming Sunday or give us a call to see how you can get involved.

Sonja Elgin (301-869-8332) and Morna Golletz (301-482-2345;
morna@professionalquilter.com)

Local Outreach –Tim Smith

The Local Outreach Committee had a very successful August, serving meals three nights at the Community Based Shelter in Rockville. Judy Docca, Kathy Cousins, Tim Smith, Jeff Taylor, Jane Taylor, Jeff Bergsten, and Dana Burton provided the meals. The CBS was combined with Sophia House while Sophia House was being renovated, so there was a little extra challenge. We're hoping to pick-up another night in late September/early October. If interested, let us know. We also received a very nice thank you from the Carol Jean Cancer Foundation-Camp Friendship.

Now we're collecting school supplies for Woodmoor Elementary in Baltimore County, where Sue Davis' daughter-in-law teaches. We'll be putting the book bags together in the afternoon of September 9th, if you want to join us. The collection boxes for notebooks, pencils, markers, binders, etc are in the back of the church.

For the rest of the fall, our plan is something in October for Veteran's Day; the Thanksgiving food baskets; and the Christmas bags for the Krahnke Center. We're doing a lot, something every month. You may not be able to participate in everything, but hopefully, one of the activities will interest you. We're also open to new ideas and member!!

International Outreach

Father Sosiness Demo, founder and director of Mirembe Home for Girls, reports that the girls are preparing to return to school the first week in September following a busy summer for the orphanage.

Jenny, the cow that was purchased for Mirembe two years ago by a St. Bart's parishioner, has given birth to a calf. The calf was born on a damp and chilly night with the girls in attendance and was the cause for a great deal of excitement and celebration. Given the unusually cool (for Kenya) weather conditions, the girls named the calf Winter. All indications are that Winter is healthy and happy and, like her mother, promises to grow into welcome source of milk. Any milk not consumed by the girls will be sold, the proceeds going to operation expenses.

The summer also saw the completion of construction of a computer room for the orphanage. Officials from the United Nations have inspected the facility and granted tentative

approval to provide Mirembe with eight computers as soon as the room can be furnished and supplied with electricity. It is common in Kenya to provide furnishing by purchasing all or a portion of a large tree and hiring artisans and carpenters to construct furniture. Fr. Demo has procured “a beautiful, big tree” for this purpose and is negotiating with local craftsmen to build the computer room furniture.

Electricity continues to pose challenges for the orphanage. With the financial assistance of a St. Bartholomew’s parishioner, electricity poles have been put into place. Fr. Demo is now working to fund and procure either a transformer or a generator to complete the project.

In July the Mirembe van was involved in an accident when another vehicle struck it from behind. Fortunately, none of the girls were seriously injured. Even though the Mirembe driver was not at fault, the peculiarities of Kenyan law, culture and insurance practices are such that Mirembe had to come up with the money for the van’s repairs. St. Bartholomew’s was fortunate to be able to assist Fr. Demo meet this emergency expense.

Fr. Demo also reports that the local government has approved his application to host a Harambee, a traditional African community fundraiser. The application was submitted last September to help replace tuition funds which were diverted to repair the roof of the orphanage which had been damaged during a storm.

In a recent phone conversation with Fr. Demo, he reports that, as the girls grow up and prepare to graduate and enter college, their expenses are increasing. In addition, much of the local funding that Mirembe has relied on in the past is drying up due to the shaky Kenyan economy. As a result, Fr. Demo has placed a moratorium on accepting new girls into Mirembe, a move which clearly disturbs him. “We are not sure what God has in mind for us, but we have faith that he will provide as he always has.”

Despite the unanticipated emergencies and expenses, Fr. Demo says as “God has blessed us with plenty of rain this summer and our flower and vegetable gardens have been abundant. We have much to be thankful for.” He went on to express his “thanks to all our brothers and sisters at St. Bartholomew’s for their continuing generosity and prayers. Without you, we would be unable to continue”

Parishioners who would like to help Fr. Demo and the girls of Mirembe may do so by contributing to orphanage on an as-needed/as-

able basis, or by pledging on-going support on a monthly basis. The bulk of St. Bartholomew’s contributions are earmarked for the girls’ educational and living expenses. Any additional funds are targeted to operational and emergency expenses. For complete details, contact Brent or Stevie Grimes (301-972-3072).

Property Committee – Deborah Turton

We have finished painting both porches of the education building, thanks to Dana Burton, Gwendolyn Cannon and especially Mary Kamien. We only have the PLC porch left. We have some upcoming events, so check the bulletin for: Take care of the bushes day. Several people have expressed interest in learning how to prune our shrubs, so one Saturday in September, we will have a pruning workshop. If you are interested, let me know. We are also looking to have another yard sale to support the property committee. However, it does not look like we need donations, just your time. We have plenty of stuff in the garage that needs to be sold, so we will sell the stuff we have. If you would like to volunteer to help, let me know. It is generally a good time, and the more hands we have the lighter the work. As always, if you see anything that needs to be worked on, let me or any member of the property committee know. I am compiling a list for our next workday.

Sunday School News

Sunday School Registration will take place on September 9th along with our annual hayride. We are looking forward to continuing our past learning and fellowship activities and expanding our program to include new ideas that will enable our Sunday School Children to grow in love and fellowship at St. Bartholomew’s church. If you are interested in donating one Sunday a month in assisting our Sunday School program, please contact Ann Fitts at 301-774-4575. We welcome new participation with new ideas and energy. All children are welcome and we encourage you to invite friends!

The Ladies Guild

The Ladies Guild completed a very successful Azalea sale this spring. The profit will be around \$3000. We are looking forward to the introduction of our new Rector, Carole Fleck, who will arrive on July 8. However, we have all enjoyed seeing the Reverend Radley again. His sermons are great. We continue to serve the Lions at their June 28th dinner and we had a very good Guild meeting with 14 present in June.

September Birthdays

Scott Parker	September 1	Julian Spaans	September 23
Mary Grabau	September 5	Les Cannon	September 24
Paul Taylor	September 7	Matthew Reynolds	September 25
Evelinda Torres	September 8	Nelson Torres	September 25
Sue Lowry	September 12	Brett Parker	September 26
Loren Kimmel	September 20	Jacqueline Davis	September 27
Kelley O'Neil	September 21	Henry Cannon	September 30

Special Prayers For Those in Need



Heavenly Father, giver of life and health: Comfort and relieve your servants, and give your power of healing and care to those who minister to their needs, that they may be strengthened in their weakness and have confidence in your loving care; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Sick/Need

Margaret Louie
(per Jean Somerville)

Rufus Beecher

Butts (per Kathy Cousins 8/7/07)

Lee Gamson (per Ann Vlachos 8/5/07)

Wah Lee (per Tim Smith 8/5/07)

David Pollock (in rehab 8/07/07)

Sal Carollo (per M.Carollo 5/6/07)

Michael McGhee
(per D.Howard 5/6/07)

Rob Schaaf (per D.Howard 5/6/07)

Erin Shaw (per M.Carollo 5/6/07)

Eva Valenzuela
(per Carmen 5/6/07)

Ian Dall (per F.Dall 5/6/07)

Leila Moran (per Fr. Stonesifer)

Christopher Yen
(per J.Taylor 5/6/07)

Larry Tarasek (friend,
Kathy Cousins, cancer
2/5/07)

David Flynn (per
J.McMurtray 4/18/07)

David Davis (per
B.Davis 5/6/07)

John Parker (per
K.Parker 5/6/07)

Jingle McEver (per
M.Golletz 5/23/07)

Rachel Penkert (per
J.Penkert 5/25/07)

Hannah Penkert (per
J.Penkert 5/25/07)

Olivia Delore (per
J.Penkert, 2yr old child of
friend)

Leonard Palmer (per
Hortons 5/25/07 Robin's
father)

Ed Smith (8/30/07)

Those Serving Overseas

Jeffrey Stromberg

Rick Metrey

Outreach

Recipients of our
outreach ministries,
especially our girls of
the Mirembe orphanage.

Married

Byron Williams III
& Sabrina Adams
on August 25th.
Best Wishes!

NOTICE:

*If you want to add a name
on our prayer list, please
contact the church office
301-948-8201.*

Thank you!

St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church

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www.saintbartholomews.org



September Events & Worship Schedule

Fall/Winter Worship Service Schedule Begins September 9, 2007

Sundays

8:00 am service: Holy Eucharist, Rite I
9:15 – 10:15 Sunday Forum for adults and teens
10:30 am service: Holy Eucharist, Rite II on first & third Sundays
Holy Eucharist, Rite I on second & fourth Sundays
Morning Prayer Rite I on fifth Sundays

Sept. 9 Homecoming Sunday. – Hors d'oeuvres & information between the services

Sept. 9 After 8:00 am service – Discussion of use of music at 8:00 service

Sept. 16, 12 Noon – Worship Advisory meeting to hear “views from the pews”.

Thursday, October 4, 7 pm – Celebration of a New Ministry and Installation of the Rector