

St. Bartholomew's Beacon

*for members and friends of St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church; Laytonsville, Maryland
February 2008*

Dear Friends:

On Ash Wednesday, Feb. 6, we will begin the season of Lent. The word "Lent" derives from the Anglo-Saxon term for spring = lencten. In the Church, the term "Lent" now means the period of 40 days of prayer, self-examination, almsgiving and study of scripture that we are instructed to practice as preparation for the Easter celebration of new life. In the ancient Christian Church, a 2-3 day fasting period (a form of purification) was required of those preparing for Baptism at the Easter Vigil on Saturday night. Centuries later the fasting period was lengthened to 40 days to imitate the period that Jesus fasted in the wilderness. This extension of the fast brought a change of practice and intensity – not a complete abstinence of food, but the avoidance of meat and dairy foods, and a restriction of the use of fish, oil and wine. Hence, the tradition of not eating meat on Fridays. Now our Lenten disciplines are what we each personally choose to do.

Since every Sunday is a celebration of Jesus' resurrection, the 6 Sundays in Lent are NOT counted among the 40 days. All Lenten disciplines are suspended on the Sundays in Lent and we are to observe our Lenten disciplines during the other 6 days of the week.

Contemporary Christians have understood Lent as a period of self-examination, prayer and fasting. **It is a season when one adds a spiritual discipline to their lives to deepen their relationship with God. E.g. read a book on spiritual life, prayer, bible study, or commit to a parish Lenten program.** As a child, I was instructed to "give-up" something for Lent. Usually I chose chocolate, and then I was rewarded on Easter with a basket full of chocolate eggs and bunnies, seemingly to make up for what I had not eaten during Lent. This does not make any sense nor did it teach me anything about my faith or about the sacrifices that Jesus made in his life. Just 'giving something up for Lent' does not make anyone a better Christian! The point of a fast or "giving up" something is purification of our desires, an opportunity to stop and consider why we want what we want. This can be a worthy spiritual discipline. However, I prefer to instruct you to "add" something to your daily pattern that will make you a better person and a better Christian. What routine, habit or ritual should you add to your life that would improve your body, mind or spirit? Is it daily prayer, exercise, weight loss, more sleep, healthier eating, stop smoking, less email, reading more often, develop a new hobby, learn to draw or paint or make something, stop drinking alcohol, etc. Add something that you might continue when Lent is over. What will transform you into a freshly inspired, enlivened and more faithful Christian by Easter? Think about it; try something new! Make a choice and a promise, but tell no one! Let the promise be between you and God and see if anyone notices the new you on Easter, Sunday March 23! Do not give up your Lenten discipline – keep it for a lifetime!

Faithfully yours in Christ, Carol

Beginning Feb. 13, five Wednesday evenings with Holy Communion at 7 pm, followed by a Lenten discussion program for adults and teens at 7:30-9 pm. "Gifts Identification and Talking about Faith". Fun and inspiring exercises that will help you to discover more about yourself, your prayer preferences and your ministry. Sign up to attend and to bring simple desserts to share. Minimum of 8 needed for the program to work effectively.

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	Charley Hendricks
Treasurer	Tim Smith
Registrar	Jeff Bergsten

Vestry Members:

Ethel Olliviere	Dorothy Tessier
Evelinda Torres	John Kaufmann
Judy O'Neil	Lonnie Pera
Jeff Bergsten	Meredith Smith

Jean Sommerville

Organist Xiaolong Gao

Sunday School

Coordinator Ann Fitts

Admin. Assistant, Katie Glensor

e-mail: stbart@comcast.net

Webmaster Harry Bennett

www.saintbartholomews.org

**Church Office Hours: Wed-Thurs 10-3
Priest available by appointment.**

Bulletin Notes

ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR THE WEEK OF Sun. February 10, 2008

Copies of the 2007 Annual Report and the updated Parish Directory are available at the door of the Church. They will not be mailed and must be picked up at the office or in church.

Congratulations to the newly elected Vestry members: Bill Fitts, Sr. Warden; Charles Hendricks, Jr. Warden; Evelinda Torres, Dottie Tessier, Ethel Ollivierre (each for 3 years) & Meredith Smith - 2 years. Deborah Howard and Stevie Grimes are our newly elected diocesan Convention delegate and alternate. The new Vestry elected Tim Smith as Treasurer and Jeff Bergsten as Registrar.

Thank you to Vestry members who completed their term of office: Deborah Turton (Jr. Warden); Jeff Taylor, Tim Smith, and Evelinda Torres

Weekly Sunday Forum resumes Feb. 10, 9:15 am – 5 week series on Biblical Interpretation. Have you wondered how the Episcopal Church reads and interprets Holy Scripture? Learn how to read the Bible using “word study” and information on the historical and cultural context of Israel at the time of Jesus. Adults/teens are encouraged to attend. Bring your Bible Feb. 10, 17, 24; March 2, 9.

Lenten Program - Wed. Feb. 13 - March 12, 7 pm Holy Communion and 7:30 pm program: 5-week discussion series in the Parish Hall with dessert & coffee. Topic: “Gifts Identification” and “Talking Faith” exercises for adults and teens. This is both a fun and inspiring program on how to deepen our church’s faith, ministry and membership. Sign up on bulletin board or call Carol. **A consistent minimum number of 8 participants are necessary for the program to be effective.**

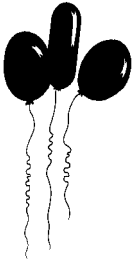
“Thanksgiving in February - Dine out at a participating restaurant on Tuesday, February 26, 2008 and a portion of the restaurant receipts will go to Montgomery County hunger relief agencies. Pick up flyer from the back table in the nave. Sign up to go with the St Bartholomew's group. This has been a fun time! Contact Tim Smith (301 527-6156) for more information.”

The Youth Group (7th-12th grades) meets on Sundays for 45 minutes after the 10:30 am service in the Educational Building. Next meeting Feb. 17. Topics of discussion are determined by leaders and youth. Contact Les Cannon and Charley Hendricks.

Please choose a Sunday to dedicate the Altar Flowers in memory of someone or in thanksgiving for a special event. Contact the office by Wed. 12 Noon of the week prior to that Sunday. The tax-deductible donation is \$80 for both vases or \$40 for one. More than one person may dedicate the flowers on a Sunday. Beginning in Jan. 2008, the Altar Flowers will be entirely paid for by donations from church members. Names will be included in the Prayers of the People and printed in the bulletin. Many families may contribute and dedicate flowers on Easter Sunday March 23, and they will remain for March 30. Dates available to dedicate altar flowers are Sun. April 6, 13, 20, and 27.

Winter Watch on the Rectory/Educ. Bldg. Because the heating system in the Education building is not reliable, there is now a warning light in the front window of the building. If you see a red light flashing from the window, it means the heat is broken again and the temperature is dropping. We'd like to avoid more burst pipes and repair work, so please call Deborah Turton 301-482-0675 or Bill Fitts 301-774-4575. Or call the church office 301-948-8201 and leave a message.

Your 2008 Pledge envelopes, labeled with your last name are now available in the church office.



February Birthdays

Byron Williams Feb. 2
 Kathy Little Feb. 3
 Maggie Schneider Feb. 3
 Alison Barberi Feb. 4
 Melissa Vincent Feb. 4
 Eric Kaufmann Feb. 6
 Anne Wasson Feb.12
 Dick Keppler Feb.13

Emily Grimes Feb. 20
 Carley Pera Feb. 22
 Christopher McMurtray Feb. 23
 Jonathan Seid Feb. 26

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.

Please remember these people in your prayers:

Those who are ill:

Sal Carollo (per M. Carollo 5/6/07)
Rob Schaaf (per D.Howard 5/6/07)
Ian Dall (per F.Dall 5/6/07)
Margaret Louie (per Jean Somerville)
Wah Lee (per Tim Smith 8/5/07)
Arthur Lowry (per Sue Lowry 9/9/07, Alzheimers)
Page Molster (per J. McMurtray 9/28/07)
Meghan Kingsley (per D. Howard 10/18/07)
John Parker (per K.Parker 11/4/07)
Michael McGhee (per Sue David 11/4/07)
Erin Shaw (per M.Carollo 11/4/07)
Jingle McEver (per M.Golletz 11/4/07)

Eva Valenzuela (per Carmen 11/4/07)
Hanna Penkert (per J. Penkert 11/19/07)
Merhle Davis (per Bill Davis 11/19/07)
Sonja Elgin (01/02/08)
Jim Lynch (J. Sommerville 1/08)
Katrina Barrett (Jeff Taylor 1/30/08)
Sarah Fortin (Robin Horton 1/30/08)
Ginny Scenna (per J. Bergsten 2/4/08)
John Kay (J. Sommerville 2/4/08)
Tom Wilkinson (Charley Hendricks 2/6/08)

Those Serving Overseas:

Rick Metrey (son of friends of K.Cousins)
Capt. Garrett Grochowski (Jane Taylor's cousin)

Outreach

Recipients of our outreach ministries

Deaths:

David Davis (son of Ruth & Bill Davis (1/10/08)
David Flynn (1/29/08)

NOTICE:

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

Pastoral Visits & Care

For pastoral visits and care, please contact her at revflett@yahoo.com. In case of a pastoral emergency, you may call Carol at home at 301-251-0109.

FEBRUARY 2008

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
27 Parish Forum After Services 8:00 AM Holy Eucharist, Rite I 9:15 AM Weekly Sunday Forum 10:30 AM Holy Eucharist, Rite I	28 4:00 PM Laytonsville Lions Club Blood Drive	29 10:00 AM Al-Anon	30 7:00 PM Bible Study	31	1	2
3 Youth Group Meets after 10:30 Service 8:00 AM Holy Eucharist, Rite I 10:30 AM Morning Prayer 11:45 AM Annual Meeting	4	 SHROVE TUESDAY 10:00 AM Al-Anon 6:00 PM Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper	 ASH WEDNESDAY 12:00 PM Ash Wednesday Service 7:00 PM Ash Wednesday Service	7	8	9
10 Youth Group Meets after 10:30 Service 8:00 AM Holy Eucharist, Rite I 9:15 AM Weekly Sunday Forum 10:30 AM Holy Eucharist, Rite I	11	12 10:00 AM Al-Anon	13 7:00 PM Evening Prayer 7:30 PM Lenten Program 1	14  Valentine's Day	15	16
17 Youth Group Meets after 10:30 Service 8:00 AM Holy Eucharist, Rite I 9:15 AM Weekly Sunday Forum 10:30 AM Holy Eucharist, Rite II	18 10:00 AM Ladies Guild Mtg	19 10:00 AM Al-Anon	20 7:00 PM Evening Prayer 7:30 PM Lenten Program 2	21	22	23 8:30 AM Vestry Retreat
24 Youth Group Meets after 10:30 Service 8:00 AM Holy Eucharist, Rite I 9:15 AM Weekly Sunday Forum 10:30 AM Holy Eucharist, Rite I	25	26 Thanksgiving in February - Dine Out 10:00 AM Al-Anon	27 7:00 PM Evening Prayer 7:30 PM Lenten Program 3	28	29	1



St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church

P.O. Box 5005
21611 Laytonsville Rd.
Laytonsville, MD 20882

Office Phone: 301-948-8201
e-mail: stbart@comcast.net
www.saintbartholomews.org

February Events & Worship Schedule

Fall/Winter Worship Service Schedule

Sundays

8:00 am service: Holy Eucharist, Rite I
9:15 – 10:15 am 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 Sunday

February 3 Annual Meeting 11:45 am
February 5 Shrove Pancake Supper
February 6 Ash Wednesday Service – 12 noon & 7:00 pm
February 13, 20, 27 7:00 pm Holy Communion
7:30 pm Lenten Program
February 18 Ladies Guild Meeting – 10:00 am
February 23 Vestry Retreat – 8:30 am – 1:30 am