

The APOSTLE

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

December 2022

A TRUE GIFT

Outside the back red door to our church building is a very large tree. If you stand under it, you are protected from rain, snow, and other elements.

One late evening as I was leaving, there were a bunch of people standing under the tree. They were participants in one of the multitudinous 12-step programs that meet at St B's.

As I said good night, one of them said: "Do you know what we call this tree?"

I said I did not.

He said: "We call it the tree of life because when we gather under it and talk, we keep each other alive."

As I pass by this tree now, I often give thanks for the gift it is — on so many levels.

We are now in the church season of Advent. It is the time when we prepare for the coming birth of a baby — you know, the one who gives us life — on so many levels.

It is easy to just focus on secular Christmas stuff — which is everywhere around us. It is easy to forget that without Jesus there would be no Santa or reindeer or multitudinous opportunities to buy gifts.

Instead, I invite you to muse about what it means to stand under our Tree of Life. I invite you to conversations that are deeper and more profound about what keeps us alive. I invite you to stand under the loving caring arms of our God — a safe place from all the elements of this world. And I invite us to thrive accordingly.

And by the way, I also invite each of us to share this good news and invite someone else to come stand with us.

May we remember the True Gift of this season, share it with each other, and rejoice in the True Christmas Gift of Life.

— Flo Ledyard, Rector

Inside

- 2 Worship
- 5 Music
- 9 Vestry
- 13 Community Formation
- 19 Christian Formation
- 23 Commitment to Ministry
- 25 Mission
- 34 Prayer List







"Home Delivery"

by Flo Ledyard, Rector

When COVID-19 erupted, we began to offer the chance to come by church once in a while for "Take Out." It was wonderful to see those of you who came by to pick up our small pre-consecrated communion kits to have at home every once in a while for Sunday worship. "Take Out" meant you could have eucharist even if you could not be in church.



But now, we are going to offer "Home Delivery" instead!

With pretty yucky covid numbers, we did not feel it was appropriate to make home visits. But now the numbers are so much better. So we can come visit — and bring communion kits! So "Home Delivery" rather than "Take Out" is now available. We expect to start this December.

To that end, some have volunteered to be LEMs or Lay Eucharistic Ministers. They will connect with those who cannot get to church and stop by episodically for a visit bearing our wonderful kits.

For the rest of us who can get to church, we look forward to seeing you and breaking bread together there.

And we certainly will continue to offer the Agape Meal.

So lots of ways to connect with God, one another and share a common meal.



St. B's welcomes your special offering for **Christmas flowers** for either Memorials (given in thanks for those who have come before) or Thanksgivings for the gifts of this life.

Please complete a form (available on the Tower Room Table)

or email Maggie (<u>mcaldwell@stbs-md.org</u>) by Sunday, December 18.

Join in on the **Greening of the Church** after the 10:30 service on Sunday, December 18.

All hands are welcomed to help prepare the church for Christmas services.



The Christmas Pageant Is Almost Upon Us!

by Amanda Harris

We are approaching the time for the Christmas pageant, and this year will be a multi-generational event at our 4:00 pm Christmas Eve service.

Children will still take the lead, but if you never got a chance to be the sheep, shepherd, Wise Man (or Woman or Person), or angel during a pageant when you were younger, now is your chance! We are still working on the details, so stay tuned! For questions or to sign up, please contact Amanda Harris at 443-812-1341 or aharris1968@hotmail.com.



Christmas Worship at St. B's



Saturday, December 24

Christmas Eve Family Service and Children's Pageant at 4:00 pm

Choral Preludes and Carols at 10:30 pm; Christmas Eve Holy Eucharist at 11:00 pm

Sunday, December 25

Christmas Eucharist at 10:30 am

Sunday, January 1

Holy Eucharist with Christmas Lessons at 8:00 am

Holy Eucharist with Christmas Lessons and Carols at 10:30 am

An Invitation to Quiet Day

By Dana Rose

ALL St Bartholomew Church Members, Neighbors, Family and Friends are invited to participate in Quiet Day 2022.

This is a wonderful opportunity to reflect on 2022 and to open your heart to God's glorious kingdom in 2023.

Please join us.

If you have any questions, please contact Dana Rose, juskit5@gmail.com, 443-878-5813.

Time - 10 AM to Noon

Format: In-Person

Location- Saint Bartholomew's Church
4711 Edmondson Ave, Baltimore, MD 21229

Leader – The Reverend Florence Ledyard

Topic: Mark of Cain

— Dana is President of the Margaret Rollo Chapter of the Daughters of the King



Worship at St. B's

oin us for worship! We worship in the Church at 8:00 and 10:30 am.

You can also join us for our 10:30 am worship on Zoom.

Here's how you can join us on Zoom at 10:30 am:

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

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.

Available Online . . .

On Our Website:

- ~ "A Moment of Peace and Quiet" a digital devotion.
- ~ Recordings of St. B's worship services.



- ~ Choral Evensong
- ~ Bach at St. Bartholomew's

Music ≪

The St. Bartholomew's Handbell Choir rehearses on the 1st and 3rd Monday of the month. If you are middle school age or older, come and join us for an exciting year of ringing. No prior musical experience is needed. Contact Willis Keeling at 410-947-5507 for more information.



A Joyous Concert!

by Ted Davis

We could not be more thrilled to be presenting great live music again! Here is a shot from our recent Brahms Requiem concert, showing the St. Bartholomew Choir and friends with soloists and orchestra. Not visible is the magnificent assembly of friends and neighbors in attendance. Thanks to all who helped bring this project to wonderful fruition.

A special thanks to our financial supporters. Funds raised support Music at St. Bartholomew's, with a portion supporting our parish Outreach fund.

— Ted is St. B's Organist and Choirmaster



Thank You, Donors!

Patrons

David Carroll in memory of John Sappington

Susan & Ted Davis in honor of St. B's musicians, present, past, and future

The Rt. Rev. Chilton Knudsen in memory of Dr. Michael J. Knudsen

Anne & Alan Lane in memory of Ray Zeigler

Florence Ledyard in memory of all teachers and children who have been killed by a gun

David & Debbie McClellan in memory of Dr. Allen Weirick

David & Diane Mountain in memory of John Mountain Robert Prince in memory of Anne Prince William A. Richards

Sponsors

Anonymous in honor of the Mountain singers

Pat Alt in memory of Lynne McCoy

Ted Davis in memory of dear departed colleagues Ray Zeigler, Michael Britt, Mark Ridings

Margaret & Donald Engvall in memory of Norm Bowmaker and Ray Zeigler

 $Amanda\ Harris\ \textit{in memory of Owen Williams Meats}$

Ayodele House

Fellisco & Willis Keeling in appreciation of St. Bartholomew's music program

William & Leah Kulp

Brian & Sandra Rosenberger

Thelma & John Smullen in memory of Ray Zeigler Jeff & Sheila Teeters

Barbara Yeager & Cynthia Y. Scourtis in memory of E. Raymond & Eileen Seward

Benefactors

Anonymous

Corinne Bowmaker in memory of Norman, Shirley, and Jan

Cathy & Doug Brookman in memory of The Rev. Ed Warfield

Marilyn Clark in memory of Linda Keiser Mardis

Debra Duffy

Alexis Johnson

Michael Mountain in memory of John Mountain Sharon C. Selleck in memory of Becky Selleck Leigh Snowden

Friends

Mary Boss

Justin Bowmaker in memory of Norman & Shirley Bowmaker

Gina Burlew

Alix Garnier

Jack Mountain in honor of the wonderful music program at St. B's

Chuck and Glorius Sullivan in memory of Ray Ziegler

Poetry for December

Shared by Janet Aldrich

We're entering the season when we sing (in a famous hymn) that Jesus "came down to earth from heaven..." This is an image near and dear to many, baffling to some, and challenging to the theology of others who experience heaven to be a little less "up there" than, perhaps.... within! Luci Shaw's poem **Descent** lends a heavenly interpretation in simple but profound wordplay: "Down he came from up/and in from out,/and here from there" in "A long leap" "through space, between stars..." A truly mystical interpretation of the word **down!** No wonder infant Jesus fell "fast asleep" after that journey! I intended to leave the poem there, but the notion of **sleep as an act of creation** emerged as a secondary theme, so I draw on an excerpt of another of Ms. Shaw's poems, **Mary's Song**:

Descent

Down he came from up, and in from out, and here from there.

A long leap, an incandescent fall from magnificent to naked, frail, small, through space, between stars, into our chill night air, shrunk, in infant grace, to our damp, cramped earthy place among all the shivering sheep.

And now, after all, there he lies, fast asleep.

Mary's Song (excerpted...)

.....Quiet he lies
whose vigor hurled
a universe. He sleeps
whose eyelids have not closed before.
His breath (so slight it seems
no breath at all) once ruffled the dark deeps
to sprout a world.......

~~ Luci Shaw



~~ Luci Shaw

May we all find space—here, there, and everywhere—to breathe and sleep in the Way of Jesus this season, co-creating through the gifts we've been given from God for one another.

~~ Janet Aldrich

St. B's Vestry

The Vestry normally meets monthly on the third or fourth Tuesday of the month. Highlights from the November 22 Vestry meeting will be available in the January *Apostle*.

All Vestry meetings are open, and all members and friends are welcome to attend. If you would like to come, please contact Maggie Caldwell (mcaldwell@stbs-md.org).

Report on Diocesan Convention

by Laura Brady

The 238th Annual Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Maryland was an in-person event on November 11th and 12th, 2022 at Turf Valley in Ellicott City.

In attendance from St B's were

- The Rev. Flo Ledyard and
- The Rev. Neva Brown as your clergy;
- Laurie Brady (delegate)
- Justin Rose (alternate delegate)
- Kate Riley (representing the Diocese as head wrangler for the Youth Pages)
- Margaret Schotto (representing the Diocese and hanging out with the Youth Pages)
- Phoebe Johnson (youth page).
- And we enjoyed some fun St B's Alumni sightings such as The Rev. Christopher Lindh-Payne, The Rev. Charles Mercer, The Rev. Karen Mercer, The Rev. Kathleen Schotto, The Rev Meredith Olsen, and Hannah Olsen!

Voting took place onsite via ballot rather than online. Laurie, Justin, and Flo met in advance via Zoom to discuss convention. This discussion included logistics, an overview of candidates, and a preview of the resolutions. This is always extremely helpful and allows us to share insight not included on the information that is published.

Convention opened with worship. The homily was given by The Rev. Canon Scott Slater. He spoke about the power of invitation and the transformation that it can create.

(Continued on page 10)

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Report on Diocesan Convention (continued)

We heard Bishop Sutton's address with a theme of until you see me, I don't exist. A person is a person because of other people. You shine a light on people when you see them, and they feel seen. During the address, we heard from a white lay person who shared her powerful truth on racism and transformation.

Zulu translation

Sawubona – I see you.

Ngikhona – I am here.

Ubuntu – I in You and You in Me.

Sanibonani – I see you. (plural)

Yebo, sanibonani - Yes, I see you. (plural)

Ninjani – How are you?

Siyapihila – We are well.

We heard Bishop Ihloff's address regarding his work in Western MD and the Commission on Ministry.

Here is a recap of the elections that took place:

We voted on Appointments and Nominations (these are more of a confirmation than an election) as follows:

APPOINTMENTS BY BISHOP to be ratified by convention:

- Diocesan Chancellor and Parliamentarian
- Dispatcher of Business
- Chief Teller
- Sergeant of Arms
- Archivist
- Historiographer

APPOINTMENTS BY BISHOP to be confirmed by convention

Committee on Canons and Other Business

Middendorf Revolving Fund

Commission on Ministry

Claggett Center Board of Trustee Carla Kaufman Rev. Amanda Akes-Cardwell from the Diocese of Washington

NOMINATIONS BY DIOCESAN COUNCIL to be elected by convention: (this group is listed as elected by convention, but not a true election as there are not multiple candidates – these selections are put forth by council)

- Treasurer
- Assistant Treasurer
- Auditors
- Investment Committee

Report on Diocesan Convention (continued)

Seat and voice were granted to clergy living in the Diocese of MD without canonical residence in the Diocese of MD

Elections were held for positions on the following committees:

NOMINATIONS BY CONVENTION to be elected by convention:

General Convention Deputies

Convention elected four lay persons and four clerics until 2024

Compensation and Benefits Committee

Convention elected one lay person and one cleric until 2025

Diocesan Council Member at Large:

Convention elected two lay persons and one cleric until 2025

Disciplinary Board:

Convention elected one lay person and three clerics until 2025

Standing Committee:

Convention elected one lay person and one cleric until 2026

Four resolutions were presented for consideration by Convention. These were considered using Rules of Order. All resolutions passed – modifications noted in red.

Resolution 2022-01 Title: Clergy and Lay Employee Compensation

The Compensation and Benefits Committee puts forth a new (updated) resolution for Clergy and Lay Employee Compensation each year based on current recommendations. This was amended to reflect the current mileage rate before passing.

✓ Resolution 2022-2 Title: Amendments to the Constitution and Canons of the Episcopal Diocese of Maryland

This was put forth to allow for convention to be held virtually. Any changes to the articles in the Constitution require two consecutive votes of affirmation by convention. This was approved at the 2021 convention by a large majority.

- Resolution 2022-3 Title: Continuing Funding for Diocesan Reparations Programs
 - This resolution requires the Reparations Committee, under the oversight of Diocesan Council, to provide continued funding in the annual operating budget in the amount of at least \$100,000 from diocesan endowments to ensure the important work of addressing and repairing the legacy of slavery throughout our diocese, and that Diocesan Council consider ways that these line items shall be funded, and the impact such funding shall have on other operating expenses.
- Resolution 2021-04 Title: Establish Diocesan Funding for Sutton Scholars This resolution asks the 238th Convention of the Diocese of Maryland calls upon the Diocesan Council to establish funding in the annual operating budget for the Sutton Scholars High School Enrichment Program ("Sutton Scholars") in the amount of at least \$100,000 annually from diocesan endowments and that Diocesan Council consider ways that these line items shall be funded, and the impact such funding shall have on other operating expenses.

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Report on Diocesan Convention (continued)

Additional business transacted at convention:

A presentation was given by the College of Congregational Development which provided great table discussions. If you want additional information on this, ministry please contact Laurie Brady at laura brady@verizon.net.

What is congregational development?

Congregational development is the development of congregations of all sizes, locations, and conditions into more faithful, healthy, and effective communities of faith that are

 focused on and faithful to their unique reason for being and primary task as congregations, which are local

expressions of the body of Christ;

- connected to and expressive of their unique ecclesial tradition, ethos, and character;
- self-renewing and responsive to the challenges and opportunities before them;
- sustainable, or working toward greater sustainability, in terms of a fit between the elements of their organizational life (e.g., vision for ministry, leadership, culture, size, property, finances, and so on); and
- fostering a culture of transparency, collaboration, courage, flexibility, and forgiveness in which the congregation and its leaders have a greater sense of choice.
- The Rev Canon Scott Slater was installed as a Canon Emeritus.
- A report was given on Sutton Scholars
- Reports were provided in written format by the Standing Committee, the Treasurer and Diocesan Council. Convention was given an opportunity to ask questions.
- Kate Riley announced that EYE (Episcopal Youth Event) is coming to College Park in July. This is a 3-day
 national event. Youth have attended from the US, Latin America, Haiti, and the Dominican Republic.
- Clergy who joined us from other Dioceses were acknowledged and introduced.
- Our Lutheran pastors from our Federated Parishes were acknowledged and introduced.
- Courtesy resolutions were passed, and Convention was recessed. Courtesy resolutions involve thanking people or groups for their contributions to convention.

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Information about General Convention which took place in July in Baltimore can be found at www.gceighty.org.

Additional Diocesan Convention information can be found on the Diocesan website: https://episcopalmaryland.org/diocesan-governance/diocesan-convention/

Convention will reconvene for the Bishop Coadjutor Election on 25 March 2023. The slate of candidates is scheduled to be announced on December 5th. Information on the Bishop search can be found on the Diocesan website: https://episcopalmaryland.org/bishop-search/.

Diocesan Convention Date for 2023 is to be announced – it is expected to be in November 2023 at Claggett

— Laurie is St. B's Lay Delegate to Diocesan Convention

The Classics Are Back!

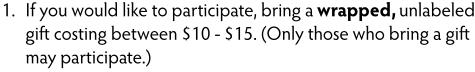
The Classics offer fellowship and education for adults ages 50 & up, Join us on Wednesday, December 14 in the Parish House at 11:00 am.

Bring a bag lunch. Drinks will be provided.

We will catch up, think about what's next — and do some singing. We'll even have a "Yankee Gift Swap" so bring a wrapped gift (\$10—\$15)if you would like to play.

How the Yankee Gift Swap works:

This is a fun, optional way to participate in an anonymous (and mostly blind) gift exchange. To play:





- 2. You will be given a number representing the order in which you will draw your gift.
- 3. Place your gift on the gift table.

When the time comes to make the gift exchange:

The person who has drawn "1" selects any gift from the gift table and opens it. Then "1" returns to his/her table and displays the gift on the table next to him/her.

The person who has drawn "2" has two choices (as well as all the rest of the players):

- 1. Chose an unopened gift from the gift table OR
- 2. Steal an opened gift from "1" or any other player. Most opened gifts are fair game.
 - a. The player from whom their gift was stolen selects and opens another gift from the gift table (or steals from another opened gift).
 - b. The exchange ends when the last gift from the gift table has been opened. Every participating player should leave with one gift.
 - c. **RULE**: A particular gift can be stolen only twice. The person who has stolen a gift from a person who stole the gift the first time gets to keep the gift.

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Sankofa Circle Opportunities

S ankofa Circles, our small groups for spiritual reflection and fellowship, are forming. We call our these Sankofa Circles, honoring the West African idea of moving ahead while remembering and learning from your past.

Our small groups meet at various times and locations for discussion of scripture and the Sunday sermon, sharing of personal reflections, fellowship, and prayer. Newcomers are always welcome to sign up for any Sankofa Circle group; it's a great way to get to know other folks you see on Sunday mornings.

One Sankofa Circle meets every Wednesday evening at 7:00 pm via Zoom. For more information, please contact Joe Twist (joseph.twist@novartis.com; 410/404-1943) or Claudia Twist (chtwist@gmail.com; 410/627-6131).

Another group will meet through December 7 on Wednesday evenings in the Ten Hills neighborhood.

A third Sankofa Circle, moderated by Inez Haynie Dodson and Michael Sarbanes, will also be held on Wednesdays during Advent (November 30 and December 7, 14, and 21) from 7:00 to 8:00 pm. We'll be meeting at Inez's apartment at Charlestown (or on Zoom if that works better for the group). Contact Michael Sarbanes (masarbanes@gmail.com, 410/303-4846) or Inez Haynie Dodson (didihd2@verizon.net, 410/314-9765).

A New Sankofa Circle for a New Year

by Chuck Sullivan

On Tuesday, January 3, 2023, The Rev. Thelma Smullen and Chuck Sullivan will be leading a new 6-week ZOOM Sankofa Circle. The meeting dates are Tuesday January 3, 10, 17, 24, 31, and February 7, and will start at 11:45 am and end at 1:15 pm. We will begin with a short mid-day prayer service and follow with a discussion of the previous Sunday's sermon and lessons. We also use a 2-page lectionary study guide.

Our dates this year take us through most of the Season of Epiphany. This Season was introduced to the Western Church in the 4th century. Its focus is the manifestation of Christ, beginning with the visit of the Magi and ending with the Transfiguration.

So come and join what I know will be a great and friendly discussion group.

If you are interested, or have any questions, please contact The Rev. Thelma Smullen (410-336-7208 or tasmullen@gmail.com) and/or Chuck Sullivan (410-644-8110 or chgl@verizon.net).

Hope to see you there.

Calling All Men — It's Time for Breakfast!

All men of St. B's! Grab a fork and join other men from St. B's on a breakfast field trip!

We'll be gathering at 8:30 am on Saturday, December 10th to enjoy coffee, cholesterol, and good company at The Double T Diner (at the corner of Route 40 & Rolling Rd in Catonsville, MD).

Need more info (or a ride) contact Brian Rosenberger

(<u>bjrosenberger9273@gmail.com</u>) or Marty Clark (<u>peaceclark1@gmail.com</u>)



Collecting Mittens, Hats, and Gloves

By Dana Rose



"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"... The season of Advent and Christmas is a time to hope, give thanks, share, pray, rejoice and reflect.

The Margaret Rollo Chapter of the Daughters of the King will be collecting new mittens, hats, and gloves for the families of 40 West starting November 27 through December 18. The collection basket will be in the Tower Room.

Please consider making a "warm" donation Thank you!

— Dana is President of the Margaret Rollo Chapter of the Daughters of the King





Commuter

2023 Women's Retreat led by Katharine Armentrout and Flo Ledyard

Friday, January 27 to Sunday, January 29, 2023

BODACIOUS WOMEN

The Bible is full of them. Bodacious women.

What made them bodacious? Did their bodaciousness matter? Are you a bodacious woman? Do you even want to be one?

Come spend a weekend exploring Jesus and some Bodacious Women. We will learn about them. Explore our own capacity for bodaciousness. And muse about what God is calling us to be as we go forward.

We will be staying at the Inn at Claggett 3035 Buckeystown Pike, Adamstown MD 21710.

Single and double rooms are available, each with its own bathroom.

And our room prices are the same as last time.

Single Rate: \$275 Double Rate: \$230 Commuter: \$125

Save your space! Sign up ASAP! Scholarships are available. Please speak to Flo.

SIGN UP NOW AND PLAN TO BE WITH US! Name: _____ Phone number: _____ Email: _____ Single Room ____ Double Room (Roommate: _____)

Men's Retreat at the Claggett Center

Friday, February 3 — Sunday, February 5, 2023



Join men from across the Dioceses of Maryland and Washington for a weekend of music, fellowship, recreation, and worship. One of Claggett's longest-running retreats, find community and deepen your faith this winter.

2023 Rates

- Single-occupancy lodging in the Christiane Inn: \$275
- Double-occupancy lodging in the Christiane Inn: \$240
- Single-occupancy Inn (one night): \$223
- Double-occupancy Inn (one night): \$208
- Single-occupancy lodging in the Christiane Inn: \$225 (under 40 discount)
- Double-occupancy lodging in the Christiane Inn: \$190 (under 40 discount)
- Commuter: \$100

You may click here to register.

Prayer Shawls and Sewing Bees

The Prayer Shawls Group meets on the first Wednesday of the month at 7:00 pm in the Parish House and on Zoom.

We craft shawls and prayer squares to give to parishioners and 40 West clients in need of comfort. The shawls are a tangible hug folks can keep with them all the time—a tangible reminder of our love and care for them, and God's love and care for them. Knitters and crocheters of any age and ability are welcome.



Please contact Leigh Snowden at lsnowde1@msn.com for more information or for the Zoom link. St. B's Sewing Bees meet on the first Tuesday of each month from 2:00 to 4:00 pm at the Hardy home for crafting and fellowship.



Any sort of handwork is encouraged—knitting, quilting, cross-stitch, scrapbooking, etc.

For information about the St. B's Sewing Bees, please contact Sharon Selleck at scobleselleck@gmail.com.

YAZ: Young Adult Zoom

by Kate Riley

Calling all young-ish adults! Join us as we gather on Zoom with a favorite beverage and snack! We may play JackBox games, Bible study, or end up just talking for an hour. Come join us and see what the fun is all about. Email Kate Riley to be put on the email list: kriley@episcopalmaryland.org! We look forward to sharing laughs, life updates, and prayers with you!

— Kate is a member of St. B's and Canon for Youth for the Episcopal Diocese of Maryland

Learnin' About God and Other Stuff

by Flo Ledyard, Rector

Pretty soon it will be time for Christmas Vacation! Hooray!



BUT — learning is ever present, life-long, and pretty fun. And the truth is, we never stop learning. Pretty much an every day thing.

So here are some wonderful opportunities at St B's to continue finding out about God, the Bible and other stuff. Take a peak and join in. Lots of stuff for kids and adults. Invite a friend or neighbor too.

We learn best when we teach each other. "Class Participation"



At St Bartholomew's Church, we make sure that we are offering for all ages the opportunity to learn and grow as a Christian.

So I invite each of you to keep on learning in one of the following ways:

The Cribbery, providing childcare for infants and children up to age 5, is open on Sundays from 10:00 am to 12:00 noon.

Children's Word meets on Sunday mornings during the 10:30 am service. Just after the Epistle (Second) Reading, children in the church, age 3 through grade 5, gather with their teachers in the Undercroft.

D Group, for those in grades 6—12, meets on alternate Sundays from 12:00 – 2:30 pm.

Episcopal 102 meets on Zoom on Mondays from 5:30 to 7:00 pm. We're currently reading the Gospel According to Matthew. Here's the Zoom link.

Sunday Faith Forum, a 45-minute opportunity on Sunday Mornings for older youth and adults to learn something intriguing on various topics. We meet on various Sundays from 9:15 to 10:00 am. Here's the Zoom link.

by Joe Twist

FAITH FORUM

A Conversation about Baltimore City Schools

....whether you have kids or grandkids in the Baltimore City Schools.....whether you live in Baltimore City Schools or not......

The Baltimore City Schools have a profound influence on your life!!!



Join St. B's parishioner **Michael Sarbanes**, (an eight o'clocker) in a Faith Forum conversation with **Joe Twist** to examine the impact Baltimore City School have on the lives of people in the Baltimore region. Committed to a Better Baltimore, Michael is currently a public school teacher in Irvington and a former senior official in the Baltimore City School District. He is former board member of the Baltimore Education Network and currently lives where he teaches in nearby Irvington.



December 11 & 18 from 9:15 to 10:00 am Via Zoom

D-Group Gathering





Dgroup enjoying the youth house again!







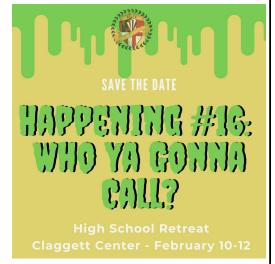
Get Ready for D-Group!

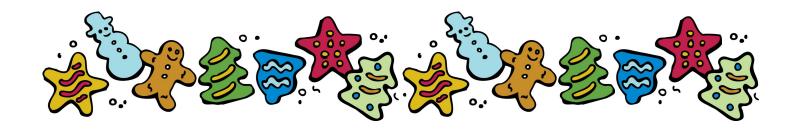
St. B's D-Group, for youth entering grades 6 through 12, meets in the Youth House from 12:00 to 2:30 pm on alternate Sundays. December gatherings are scheduled on the 4th and 18th. For more information, please contact Leaders Kathie or Marty Clark (peaceclark1@gmail.com). Gather for fun, fellowship, and faith. Invite a friend!

Happening 16!

Who Ya Gonna Call? February 10 to 12

Happening is a national program for youth in grades 9 through 12, designed, staffed, and run by Episcopal youth! This weekend will deepen your relationship with Jesus and connections with those on similar spiritual journeys. Happening takes place at the Claggett Center. Click here to register.





Children's Word

by Steve Miller and Kobey DeVale

ome to Children's Word at St. B's! Our preschool and elementary school worshipers leave the sanctuary after the Epistle (Second) reading to join teachers Kobey DeVale and Steve Miller in the Undercroft for a session that includes prayer, check-ins, a children's version of the Gospel Lesson, and a craft related to that lesson. Children's Word is guided by the Spark curriculum, which follows the same lectionary schedule as our adult lessons do.

Children return to their families during the passing of the peace. Newcomers, friends, and parents are welcome to come along.

Currently Children's Word meets as a single combined, in-person class of Kangaroos (age 3-grade

2) and Elephants (grades 3-5) as we typically have 2-3 young ones of about the same age, but we will go to a two-class format if/when participation expands. And we will incorporate a Zoom component upon request, for families with children who do not attend in person at St. B's—just let us know.

Please let Kobey DeVale (kdevale@devale.net),
Steve Miller (stmiller@umbc.edu) or Maggie
Caldwell (mcaldwell@stbs-md.org) 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.

— Steve and Kobey are Children's Word Leaders





The Cribbery

providing child care for infants and children up to age 5 from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm.

Are you interested in finding out more about the Cribbery? Stop by on Sunday morning and meet our wonderful childcare provider Dona McIntyre.

Hear Ye, Hear Ye, Energy Consumers! Federal Climate Legislation for Marylanders

by Leah Kulp

Billed as the largest climate legislation in US history, the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) of August 2022 includes a Home Energy Rebate Program for consumers that will be administered by the Department of Energy (DOE). It is expected that the funding will become available in late 2023. On November 2, 2022 the Biden-Harris Administration announced that \$9 Billion will be available to states and tribes for enabling communities to make homes more energy efficient, upgrade electric appliances, and cut energy costs. A total of \$136.8 Million has been allocated for Maryland:



Home Energy Performance-Based, Whole-House Rebates (home retrofits): \$68.6 Mill High Efficiency Electric Home Rebates (home appliances point of sale rebates): \$68.2 Mill

Consult DOE's government website at Energy.gov for developing information about the rebate program and other federal allocations on climate solutions. Here is a link to the November 2 announcement: https://www.energy.gov/articles/biden-harris-administration-announces-state-and-tribe-allocations-home-energy-rebate.

Meanwhile, the federal solar tax credit has been extended and is available now through 2035 for purchases of home solar panels or for shares to an off-site solar project that the consumer purchases:

Review the "Homeowner's Guide to the Federal Tax Credit for Solar Photovoltaics" found on the energy.gov website: https://www.energy.gov/eere/solar/homeowners-guide-federal-tax-credit-solar-photovoltaics

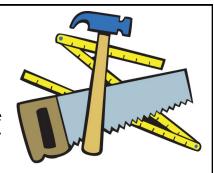
— Leah is Chair or the Creation Caretakers



Property Update

by Dave Murray

✓ Work is progressing on the new 40 West accessible entrance. Plans are nearing completion, and we hope to have them available for the Vestry and Parish to view in December.



- ✓ Plans are also underway to replace the church boiler with a new steam boiler to serve the church level. A separate new HVAC system will be installed to serve the entire undercroft. We're still working through lots of details/requirements, so this is taking more time.
- ✓ A meeting was held 11/8 with ADT to work through the requirements for a new door security system and parking lot surveillance capability. Expected installation will depend on the availability of system hardware probably Feb-March 2023.
- Concrete work has now completed on the kitchen brick porch, flagstone walkway, and retaining wall by the 40 West stairwell. Concrete left from the retaining wall work was used to replace a good portion of the Youth House rear sidewalk. Remaining is the replacement of the tower room step onto the side porch. Hopefully, it will be completed by the time you read this update.
- ✓ Leaf Filter was hired to install filters on both gutters of Trinity Chapel.

— Dave is a member of the Property Committee

Financial Position as of October 31, 2022

— Financial information is provided by John Schroeder, Treasurer

October 31, 2022	Current Month	Current Month	Year to Date	Year to Date
	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget
Total Income	36,436.76	48,791.25	410,225.56	487,912.50
Total Expenses	(45,680.00)	(51,985.13)	(518,702.53)	<u>(519,889.73)</u>
Difference	(9,243.24)	(3,193.88)	(108,476.97)	(31,977.23)

Its' Time for the Angel Tree!

by Daphne Cover and Glorius Sullivan

Advent is upon us and that means the Christmas Tree in the Parish House will become the **Angel Tree** on Sunday, November 27th! The Angel Tree will be decorated with construction paper ornaments which represent children from 40 West families who are depending on us for gifts this Christmas.

Please choose an ornament and then go to the sign-up sheet and write down your name, phone number, and email address next to the name of the child you chose. That way we know who to contact if your gift does not show up on time. Information regarding the child's age and gender will be on the ornaments. You are asked to spend approximately \$25 on the gift (to assure equity).

Please remember to write what your gift is on the back of the ornament, and attach it to your wrapped gift, so that parents and "Santa" will know what the child will receive. (This is especially important as

many families have more than one child listed, and gifts many be provided by different donors.)

Wrapped gifts should be returned to the Parish House and put under the tree by Sunday, December 11th. 40 West parents will be picking up these gifts for their children on Monday, December 12, so please do not be late!

— Daphne and Glorius are members of the Outreach Committee; Glorius is the Interim Director of 40 West

Giving Thanks

MANY thanks to the generous souls of St. B's for supplying 72 families in the 40 West corridor with Thanksgiving Kits (containing sugar, cooking oil, rolls, pies and butter) to supplement the turkey and Thanksgiving food provided by the Maryland Food Bank and 40 West to make a Thanksgiving feast. As always, parishioners rose to the challenge.

Special thanks to Amanda Harris, Mercedes Hill, and Margaret Schotto of the Outreach Committee organized and publicized the collection of the Thanksgiving Kits and assisted with the distribution of the Thanksgiving food.



Additional thanks to those who swiftly responded to a last-minute request for help to provide a Thanksgiving meal for five families at a school in East Baltimore. Your generosity is overwhelming!

"Bmore2gether" with KIVA

by Margaret Schotto

The mission of the KIVA Committee at St. Bartholomew's — We loan because we want to help our global neighbors start, sustain, or expand a community-based business to alleviate poverty, especially among children and youth.

What better way to support this mission than to support loans so a young woman who started the largest private health and fitness facility in Kigali, Rwanda or a young woman who is an entrepreneur providing access to affordable, clean water. Read more about these young women below:



Rwanda — Waka Fitness Ltd:

Waka Fitness Ltd is the largest private health and fitness facility in Kigali. It opened in 2014 to promote health and fitness across Kigali. It is fully owned and managed by the person pictured in the picture. It also creates spaces where people can work and thrive.

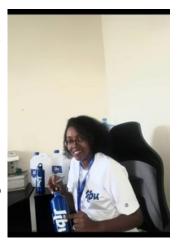
It has now expanded to offer the continent's first ever "lifestyle hub," which combines fitness, a co-working space, and an event facility to accommodate a network of growing and aspiring companies and citizens. Waka Fitness didn't forget diversity because it not only employs people from different countries and cultures, but it also employs refugees. Waka Fitness Ltd has 22 permanent employees and 5 casual employees.

Waka Fitness Ltd wants to be able to replace aging equipment and refresh/re-launch its brand to retain the existing customer base and attract more customers. It has managed to secure contracts with public and private companies, NGOs, and individuals

to work with. It is also planning to launch a new place. It is requesting a loan to purchase new equipment—for example, five treadmills, two upright bikes, two recumbent bikes, and two ellipticals. This loan will attract more customers and provide more employment opportunities for others.

Rwanda — Rosine:

Rosine has been a successful Franchisee for the last four years. When she received the opportunity to get a Jibu Franchise, she doubled her volume and drove more awareness in the territory. As she keeps expanding her business and reaching out to more customers, a delivery loan will help her to achieve her financial targets and



help the local community to have access to safe drinking water. This loan is special because it helps entrepreneurs grow their client base and increases access to affordable, clean water. Jibu is a local company that reduces cost by using technology to filter water, eliminating middleman markups and using refillable bottles.

The KIVA loan committee has chosen loans totaling \$91,125 since its start in 2015. Funding from St. Bartholomew's totals \$29,276 so about \$62,000 has been repaid and loaned back out. We have made 237 loans in 38 different countries. If you are interested in joining the KIVA Committee to pick the recipients of St. B's loans, we will meet next by Zoom on Wednesday, January 18, 2023, at 7:00 pm. Please contact Mary Buchanan Maryhb3820@gmail.com for more information and to receive the Zoom link. All are welcome!

— Margaret is a member of the KIVA Committee

A Holiday Celebration at Edmondson Village!

by Corinne Bowmaker

It's probably been a while since you've heard the words "excitement" and Edmondson Village in the same sentence. Add the words "Christmas" and "holiday". But this year is different! On Thursday, December 15 from 4:00 to 8:00 pm, there will be a Holiday Celebration returning to Edmondson Village. It's an initiative of the new Edmondson Village Work Group supported by City Councilman Kris Burnett's office. There'll be a Christmas tree, Santa and Mrs. Claus, a fire truck, Edmondson High School marching band, and free food as well as food trucks, funnel cakes, crafts, and vendor and resource tables. Hot chocolate and candy canes and choirs caroling, including St. B's! It'll be located on the lower parking lot near the Enoch Pratt library end. There's lots of excitement building for this renewed celebration. Come join our neighbors for this merry event!



Seeking an Outreach Committee Co-Chairperson

The Vestry is searching for a **Co-Chair for the Outreach Committee**, someone who has been involved with Outreach and is willing to help others organize and coordinate events. We are looking for someone who has this type of experience/skills, is an effective communicator, and is modestly detail oriented. The volunteer should be willing to commit 1-2 hours a week when the Committee is not meeting and possibly 2-4 hours when it does meet. The Committee meets monthly on Wednesdays. The Committee is busiest September through January. Got questions or think you might be interested? Please contact Dave Mountain at davidjmountain@ieee.org.

Lending a Helping Hand

by Glorius Sullivan and Minister Cheryl Murdock

On November 4 & 7, 40 West held our monthly "The Emergency Food Assistance Program" (TEFAP) food distribution. It's a federal program that provides food to those who qualify by various federal standards. It is administered by the Maryland Food Bank (MFB), and distributed through vetted MFB Partners, such as 40 West. This month, the MFB sent various quantities of salmon, green beans, flour, vegetable oil, tuna, chicken, raisins, applesauce, and cheese, totaling 1386 pounds. Our pantry supplemented the TEFAP food with additional quantities of items to serve 72 folks equally and with items we purchased through a grant to help create meals from those items, including stuffing mix, spaghetti noodles, and Rice-A-Roni chicken mix. We gave out 2,088 pounds of food to 72 families - in TWO days!

Our Thanksgiving Meal Food Distribution was held on Tuesday, November 15 as a first-come, first-served event held in the parking lot. And I do mean "first come, first served" — there were about 10 cars already lined up, and a few individuals who walked to our Center — waiting to receive food when I arrived at 6:45 am. St. Bartholomew's Outreach Committee sponsored a collection of sugar, cooking oil, rolls, pies, and butter from St. B's parishioners that was added to the meal. We give a special "Thank You" to Margaret Schotto, Amanda Harris, and Mercedes Hill of the Outreach Committee who organized and publicized the collection and were out there on that cold morning with us packing bags and giving out the food! We gave out 1897 pounds of food that day to 72 neighbors, plus light bulbs. We are grateful for the generous response of our St. B's family!

Coming up in the next few months:

We are in the process of planning for our Christmas Meal Distribution on Thursday, December 15, in the parking lot, again on a first-come, first served basis. This will serve another 76 families in need. And we hope to revive the MLK Food Drive in January, 2023. That will be really helpful, as our Food Grant from the Maryland Food Bank will cease on December 31,

2022. The Maryland Food Bank has generously supported pantries with food grants all through this COVID-19 pandemic, so that we could continue to give food to those in need. 40 West is grateful beyond words for this continuous support that kept us open during this time.

And coming very soon, we will have the Angel Tree Program — where folks from St. Bartholomew's and our other member churches and neighbors buy Christmas Gifts in the amount of \$25 for children of 40 West clients. Paper ornaments will be hung on the Christmas Tree in the Parish House. Each ornament will have information about a specific child — a boy or girl aged 17 and under — for whom their parents or guardians have requested a present. A donor signup sheet will be nearby, so we can keep track of who is providing a present for which child. Gifts, wrapped and tagged, will be due back to the Parish House by Sunday, December 11. Glorius Sullivan, Interim Director of 40 West, and Daphne Cover and Amanda Harris of St. B's Outreach Committee are coordinating this program. We are very glad that the previous years' restrictions made necessary by the COVID-19 pandemic have eased enough that we can bring back this much appreciated program.

There are some other services 40 West provides — services not as visible as the bags of food we distribute, but services so very basic and necessary for the folks we serve. 40 West is proud to be an agency partner with the Office of Home Energy Program (OHEP), a Maryland State energy assistance program, and a partner with the Maryland Fuel Fund (MFF). Over many years, our Center has assisted in restoring hope and BGE services for many clients in our area and citywide by helping them access funds available through these and other programs. Here are just a few examples from this past month.

There was a client who was involved in a serious car accident, which kept him off from work several months. Being left without income until he could work again, his service was turn off. But after coming

Lending a Helping Hand (continued)

to the Center, despite his excruciating pain, he was able to apply for energy assistance through OHEP. He was awarded \$2,468 and his service was restored.

Another client, a retired grandmother, was in the process of getting guardianship of her 8-year-old granddaughter and was unexpectedly surprised by the need to also take over the care of two other teenage grandsons. She was not receiving any benefits for any of them, but tried to make the resources for one, sustain four. Needless to say, she had fallen behind in paying bills and received a turn-off notice from BGE. After coming to the Center, she felt safe enough to release some of her emotions and share the stress she had been experiencing. We guided her through the OHEP application and her service did not get interrupted, for she was awarded \$5,573.77 in arrears and special programs just in time!

There was another case where a gentleman's elderly mother suddenly passed. As the only child, he gave up his residence to maintain her home. It was then that he discovered that his mother's utilities were in arrears and services were about to be cut off! But after walking to the Center for help, he was awarded \$1,224.91 to cover his mother's oversights and the service was uninterrupted.

There are so many cases that we have encountered, but the final case we will share is that of a senior husband and wife (who was physically impaired), whose service had been cut off since June. After making several trips to the Center via public transportation to provide the necessary documents, they were awarded \$1,748.00 and finally had their service restored this month.

We have been so thankful to be able to expand our reach and magnitude in helping our community and the citizens of Baltimore City at-large. The impact we have made on those we have served has made such a difference in the lives of our clients, and in our volunteers' lives to have the privilege of helping our neighbors. Our Center is a safe place where clients are welcomed, without judgement but with a listening ear and a willingness to help. Each week our clients never let us forget how thankful they are for the Center and the kindness of the volunteers who serve them. In fact, we are frequently bought flowers in appreciation! We at the Center feel great joy in what we do. We truly count it an honor and a privilege to function as God's servants for the community

You also share is this ministry, helping 40 West to help others — by your food donations, financial donations, volunteering to staff the Center's office, packing bags of food, receiving food deliveries, donations of warm winter clothing, and your prayers — for the Center and our clients. We are thankful for all the support in so very many ways — to help to fulfill our mission to provide, with compassion, the basic necessities of life. Thank YOU!

— Glorius is Interim Director and Chairman of the Board for the 40 West Assistance and Referral Center, Inc.; Cheryl is a Board Member and Long-time Center Office Volunteer

It's Beginning to Look a Lot Like... Good News for Outreach!

by Mary Helen Sprecher

St. B's inaugural in-person Christmas Bazaar was a wall-to-wall and wire-to-wire success. The event, held on Saturday, November 12, brought in (at last count) more than \$2,000, all of which was earmarked for Outreach.

Shoppers were able to browse from...

- Jewelry
- Collectibles
- Clothing
- Books
- Home-Baked Goodies
- Handcrafted Advent Wreaths by Don DeVale
- Art by Janet Waters

...and a whole lot more! Thanks go out to all the parishioners who baked for the event – as well as to those who shopped and volunteered that day. We are very grateful.

Missed your chance to attend? Look for a special online sale on Facebook!

And by the way, St. B's will host another Christmas Bazaar next year – so please keep us on your radar for when you're doing your shopping.

— Mary Helen is Co-Chair of the Flea Market and Christmas Bazaar Committee





St. B's Christmas Bazaar





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Baltimore Peace Movement

by Brigit Molony

Baltimore Peace Movement
Tagline: Peace is the Promise
#BaltimorePeacePromise

The movement formerly known as Baltimore Ceasefire.

Perhaps you have heard, Baltimore Ceasefire is no more. But the Baltimore Peace Movement has risen up! What does this mean? The movement has not gone away.... rather, the name change brings to the forefront our desire to manifest what we want, to bring light to what we want, rather than to bring attention to what we don't want, to reflect more clearly what we believe, what we want to manifest in our city, in our communities. To replace negative energy with positive energy. Our goal is and has always been to promote peace, to bring attention to all the positive work being done in our city, to bring light, hope, love and change, to step out and step up. To love our neighbors, all of our neighbors. To identify and amplify the life-affirming activities that are happening in and around our city every day. To identify and continue to address and make known needs of our communities. To be very clear, we are a movement made up of people who care deeply about the people of our city.

What that means is that one's involvement is purely personal. Each person who lives in, or is involved in our city, has something to offer. What does it even mean to "manifest peace"? "The word 'manifestation' means to create something or turn something from an idea into a reality. In psychology, manifestation generally means using our thoughts, feelings, and beliefs to bring something to our physical reality." For us, it means being intentionally peaceful in our language, in our behavior, in our actions. Change the narrative, Baltimore.

What does it look like to you to manifest peace?

"When love is the way, the earth will be a sanctuary. When love is the way, we will lay our swords and shields down by the riverside to study war no more. When love is the way, there's plenty of room for all of God's children. When love is the way, we actually treat each other, well, like we are actually family."

—Presiding Bishop Curry

https://www.baltimoresun.com/news/crime/bs-md-cr-ceasefire-changes-20221103-omfmtm6y5zdvhpdmzm4v2urhgi-story.html

Baltimore Peace Movement























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

Lucy Marshall; Vince Marsiglia; Shirley Nathan Pulliam; Celia Vismale; Larry Brown; Sandra DeSilva; Mary Warfield; Phoenix DeVale; Irene Hardy; Stephanie Brooks-Wiggins; Tijon Cox and family; Rodney Michel; Brian Wagner; Tim Wolf; Catherine Williamson; Zach, Dana, and Zoe Przybyszewski; Gordon Piché; Mary Lou Fralic; Bonita and Donald DeVale; Nicholas Nathan; Vici-Lyn; Debbie McClellan; Margaret Schotto; Cathy Brookman; Bryce Kaspar; Mercedes Hill; Eileen Lane; Barbara Haughey; Verna Harrison; Corinne Bowmaker; Kate Henshall; 40 West Assistance and Referral Center Clients; Heidi; Theresa Thomas; Meg and Shaun; Kathy and Andy; Don and Angel; John and Jean; Nathan; Tom McNeil; James Cooper; Kimberly Hayes; Naomi Adams; Lauren Heinlein; Karen McManus; Stanley; Darlene; Margaret S.;

Esther; Steve Freeman; Jen Steffen; Bill Stamatakis; Vernette Peels; Susan Butler; Donna Rouse; S. L. Black; Shirley Black; Danielle Gaetando; Gunny; Linda Simkins; Sharon Haynie; Mary Gault; Tari and Joseph I; Karen and Robbie Cardinell; Diane McPhillips; 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.

Refreshing the Prayer List

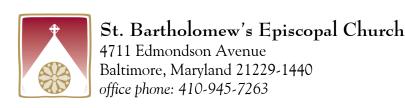
We will be creating a fresh Prayer List for Christmas. If you wish to have a name remain on the Prayer List, or if you wish to add a name, please email the Office (Office@stbs-md.org) or leave a note on the desk in the Office with the name neatly printed by Sunday, December 18. (We want to be sure all names are spelled correctly.) Thank you.



The deadline for the January issue of *The Apostle* is <u>Thursday, December 15.</u>

Please e-mail articles to mcaldwell@stbs-md.org.

To submit typewritten or handwritten material, place it in Maggie Caldwell's mailbox outside of the Church Office. All articles must include a contact name and email or phone number. Publication of *The Apostle* is on the last Sunday of the month.



🥯 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. Childcare is available for children up to age 5 in the Parish House from 10:00 am-12:00 pm

Sunday Christian Formation

Faith Forum for Adults and Older Youth:

Mostly Alternate Sundays from 9:15—10:00 am

Children's Word for Children Age 3 (by 09/01) — Grade 5:

During the 10:30 am service; in church

Youth Group for Grades 6—12:

Meets on most alternate Sundays at 12:00 pm in the Youth House.

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.