



The APOSTLE

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

March 2023

WELCOME, PAN!

by Michael Sarbanes

This month St. B's welcomes The Reverend Pan Conrad as our Interim Rector. Pan comes to St. Bartholomew's with a fascinatingly varied background, a tangible enthusiasm for St. Bartholomew's, and a powerful commitment to ministry that we think will fit well with the blazing beacon that is St. B's. She has been Rector at St. Alban's, Glen Burnie for the past six years. She has a strong focus on racial justice and serves as Chair of the Truth and Reconciliation Committee for the Diocese of Maryland. She has also been a national leader in the dialogue around science and faith, serving as the elected Warden of the Society of Ordained Scientists in North America. Before being called to ministry, she served as a NASA astrobiologist and helps to coordinate a team that guides the work of one of the Mars rovers. She also brings a passion for music, with degrees in composing and vocal performance. And, amongst many other interests, she holds a 3rd degree black belt in Shotokan Karate!

Pan brings an emphasis on collaborative ministry, energy about celebrating the liturgy and preaching, a commitment to pastoral care and environmental stewardship, and her excitement about engaging children in the life of the church. We feel fortunate to have her with us as we navigate our path to finding a new Rector.

— Michael is St. B's Senior Warden

EXPLORING THE MATERIAL AND THE MYSTICAL: FOLLOWING JESUS INTO THE UNKNOWN

by The Reverend Pan Conrad

All living things explore their environment because it is how they seek opportunity and learn to identify potential threats. Humans are no exception, so we too step out into the unknown. We are hard-wired to do so. However, we are more than biology. We are also spiritual creatures, and one might imagine that we are also equipped with the instinct to explore the spiritual realm to learn about opportunities and threats in that environment. So, even though the wilderness may seem a little imposing, maybe even scary, it calls to us, both physically and spiritually. For me, this call into the wilderness is

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so strong that I've spent the last ~25 years engaging in and leading expeditions and trying to figure out how God is calling me to integrate those experiences with my desire to be in beloved community.

Matthew (4:1) tells us that *Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil*. I have wondered whether temptation was the purpose, or whether temptation is always there, seeking to cheapen, to make shallow the deep communion with the divine that one feels in the wilderness—those places without “amenity.” The Holy Scriptures recount more than one journey into solitude for Jesus, but this forty day experience seems to have been unique.

My experiences as an explorer of what some people would consider “extreme” environments on Earth and on Mars have been a source of deep spiritual reflection and closeness to God. Some of the places we will visit are the ocean floor in the Pacific depths, Death Valley, Antarctica, Svalbard, and off world destinations on Mars. I want to share some of them with you during Lent in our own virtual trip into the wilderness. Through images and scriptural texts, we will explore the material and the mystical experiences that await when the Holy Spirit

invites us into the wilderness. And this is my way of sharing with you some of the things that have formed me as a Christian.

Paul, writing to the church in Corinth, said:

But, as it is written, “What no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the human heart conceived, what God has prepared for those who love him”— these things God has revealed to us through the Spirit; for the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. For what human being knows what is truly human except the human spirit that is within? So also no one comprehends what is truly God’s except the Spirit of God. Now we have received not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit that is from God, so that we may understand the gifts bestowed on us by God. And we speak of these things in words not taught by human wisdom but taught by the Spirit, interpreting spiritual things to those who are spiritual. 1 Cor 2:9-13

We are Jesus followers, so if he was led into the wilderness, that is where we are called to follow. And besides, it can be awesome fun.

We’ll gather on Wednesdays during Lent at 7:00 pm, beginning March 8, [on Zoom](#) — and possibly in the Parish House.

— *Pan* is St. B’s Interim Rector

✎ **Worship**

Sunday Worship at St. B’s

Join us for Sunday 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

AND, you can come early to have some fun at our Zoom Coffee Hour.



Lent at St. B's

During Lent, we prepare for Easter and the celebration of Christ's resurrection. These six weeks between Wednesday, March 2 and Saturday, April 16 are a special time in our calendar for *prayer, reflection, formation, and service*.

Special Lenten Worship

Palm Sunday (April 2) Blessing of the Palms and Passion at 8:00 am (in the Church) and 10:30 am (in the Church and on Zoom)

Maunder Thursday (April 6) Eucharist & Footwashing at 7:30 pm (in the Church and on Zoom), followed by an all-night vigil (in the Chapel or at home)

Good Friday (April 17) services at 12:00 noon (Good Friday Liturgy) — in the Church and 7:30 pm (Tenebrae) — in the Church and on Zoom

Weekly Worship

Sundays: Holy Eucharist at 8:00 am (in the Church) & 10:30 am (in the Church and [on Zoom](#))

Weekdays & Saturdays: Noonday Prayer at 12:00 noon (from home)

Wednesdays: The Stations of the Cross at 5:30 pm [on Zoom](#).

Stations of the Cross

by Dana Rose

The Daughters of the King will host a virtual session of the **Station of Cross** on the following Wednesdays in Lent — March 1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd, and 29th at 5:30 pm.

Please join us on Zoom—

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81546650321?pwd=d284RWtFdjYrL0IzSU1sWllLUFkxZz09>

Meeting ID: 815 4665 0321

Passcode: 703085

Dial-in Number: 301 715 8592



“Is it not wonderful news to believe that salvation lies outside ourselves?”

— Martin Luther

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

Transfiguration Sunday

After exhorting the people of St. B's to be "THREE T'd" —

TRANSFIGURED
and
TRANSFORMED,
so we can
TRANSITION . . .

The Reverend Flo Ledyard celebrates her final Eucharist as St. B's Rector.



We say and sing
The Great Litany
on **March 12** at both services.

The Litany is a series of prayers and supplications appropriate for the season of Lent.

Available Online . . .

On Our [Website](#):

- ~ “A Moment of Peace and Quiet” — a digital devotion.
- ~ Recordings of St. B’s worship services.

And on our [“Music at St. Bartholomew’s -Baltimore” YouTube Channel](#):

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



Daylight Saving Time begins March 12.
Remember to “Spring Forward” and set your clocks ahead
one hour before you go to bed Saturday night.

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](tel:410-947-5507) for more information.



An Afternoon of Prayer and Musical Celebration for a Time of Transition

by Ted Davis

Sunday, February 26

4:30 pm Choral Evensong, led the St. Bartholomew Choir

The service of Choral Evensong has a history of nearly 500 years and is one of the great liturgies of the Anglican tradition, beloved not only for its legacy of beautiful music but also for its spiritual depth. In England, Choral Evensong services are broadcast on radio from many of the great cathedrals and university chapels, often attracting tourists and, increasingly, young people. Close your weekend with this unique opportunity to unplug, reconnect, and be spiritually fed. No need to fly across the Atlantic!



5:15 pm Organ concert by Dr. Ted Davis

For the first time since 2019, we are re-starting our ongoing celebration of our spectacular Casavant-Storey organ, completed in 2007. While you may hear it on Sunday mornings, you might be surprised by the instrument's full potential when given the opportunity to "let loose" a little more!

In celebration of Black history month, the afternoon's music will include works of Samuel Coleridge Taylor, Florence Price, Norman da Costa, and David Hurd.

— Ted is St. B's Organist and Choirmaster

Choir School of West Baltimore

Do you know a child who likes to sing?

A new free choral and music education program starting soon at
St. Bartholomew's Church, 4711 Edmondson Avenue,
Baltimore, MD 21229

(church membership at St. B's or any faith-based organization is not required)

Open to ALL children in grades 3 - 8



- Professional vocal training. No previous training required
- Piano lessons available
- Development of leadership and social skills
- Opportunities to perform in the community
- Engagement in music appreciation and a wider world
- Having fun and making new friends

Free Sunday classes at noon!

If interested, contact **Corinne Bowmaker** at **410-241-1585**
or **zencorinne@hotmail.com**

Storage

Shared by Janet Aldrich

Though I aspire to diversify poetic offerings with lesser known or lesser popularized poets in order to magnify the breadth of the Holy Muse, I return here to Mary Oliver: This poem clings to my heart as perfect for Lent, even as Oliver writes of the literal (and freeing) chore of spring cleaning! (I don't sense much metaphor at play here, just inimitable longing for simplicity.) From our reader's eye during Lent, however, let's explore her verse as a good scrub among the nooks and crannies of our souls, an opportunity to be free of inner burdens and outer behaviors we have "no room for." While Oliver rightly calls on "the trash man" to take everything, we call on God, clergy, and community to help clear us of our inner baggage. Just as Oliver's worldly goods were burned to "make more room in [her] heart for love," so, too, were palms burned for us as symbols of a Love of Life that may rise from the ashes to help us "fly" as ones truly possessing nothing more essential within than the Love of God .

Storage

When I moved from one house to another
there were many things I had no room for.
What does one do? I rented a storage
space. And filled it. Years passed.
Occasionally I went there and looked in,
but nothing happened, not a single
twinge of the heart. As I grew older the things I cared
about grew fewer, but were more
important. So one day I undid the lock
and called the trash man. He took
everything.
I felt like the little donkey when
his burden is finally lifted. Things!
Burn them, burn them! Make a beautiful
fire! More room in your heart for love,
for the trees! For the birds who own
nothing— the reason they can fly.



~~ Mary Oliver

Vestry Highlights

At the Vestry Meeting on January 17:

- The Vestry passed the Parish House tech resolution submitted by the Tech Verger
- The Vestry discussed the creation of an Entrepreneurial Committee.
- The Vestry approved transitioning the Outreach Fund to a Reparations Fund.

At the Vestry Meeting on January 24:

- The Vestry accepted the Treasurer's December report.
- The Vestry approved the allocation of prior year reserves to balance the 2022 financial statement.
- The Vestry discussed the three-year budget.

At the Vestry Meeting on February 21:

- The Vestry passed the proposed 2023 budget.
- John Schroeder reviewed the January Treasurer's Report.
- Michael Sarbanes provided an update on the Rector search process.

Highlights from the Vestry meeting on February 28 will be available in the *April Apostle*.

The Vestry normally meets monthly on the third and fourth Tuesday of the month.

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).

Rector Search Process

By Michael Sarbanes

Saying a “good goodbye” is a very important part of the transition to a new Rector and we had a chance to laugh, cry, dance, sing, and rise up to show our gratitude for our beloved Flo. St. B’s thanks the “Triple N’s” --Nancy Nicaise, Nicete Moodie, and Rev. Neva Brown --for their wonderful work in organizing opportunities to celebrate Flo last month. We had a powerful community conversation with Flo, a delicious coffee hour, and an outrageously fun Farewell Dinner. Thanks to everyone who was involved in making those wonderful events happen – from the choir to the kitchen to set up and take down crews –as usual at St. B’s a crowd of willing hands pitched in. Thanks also to everyone who contributed to our farewell gift “purse” for Flo. Your generosity should help her to fish a lot of trout streams!

We are very grateful to welcome Interim Rector Pan Conrad to St. B’s. Pan will be with us as we conduct a search for a new Rector and we are thrilled to have the benefit of her presence and leadership for this next stage.

The search process for the next Rector is moving forward with guidance from search consultant The Reverend Dina van Klaveren, who has been retained by the vestry to help give us the wisdom of her experience in working with congregations who are searching for a new rector.

The search process will include two major stages.

1. **Development of a parish profile:**

This will be a process to gather input from as many members of the congregation as possible to help us discern what we are looking for in a new Rector. In this process, which will occur over this spring/early summer, we will be

talking about our core values and priorities, what are our strengths and areas for growth. This will help us develop the profile that we will circulate to potential candidates.

We will be lead through this process by the following **co-chairs of a Profile Committee – Corinne Bowmaker, Marty Clark, and Angel Jackson**. Each of these leaders has too many things at St. B’s to capture in a list. Angel and Corinne are past Senior Wardens, and Marty has been deeply involved in youth and Men’s ministry for many years. Amanda Harris will act as a liaison between the Profile Committee and the Vestry. The Committee will be adding additional members to make sure we have a good base for reaching out and hearing the voices of as many people as possible.

2. **Search Committee process:**

The Search Committee will circulate the Parish Profile to potential candidates and will vet resumes, conduct interviews, consult references, etc. with a view toward providing a recommendation to the Vestry to consider. We will be lead through this process by **Patricia Daniel, Michael Mountain, and Gay Warshaw**, each of whom brings a depth of experience at St. B’s that will be invaluable. This Committee also will be adding additional members to provide a faithful discernment that reflects the values of St. B’s as we search for the right candidate to be St. B’s new Rector.

— Michael is St. B’s Senior Warden

Celebrating Flo's Ministry at St. B's



by Diane Mountain

On Saturday evening, February 19th, about 200 hundred people joined to share a meal, laughter, stories and music. It was a warm send-off for The Reverend Florence L. Ledyard as we celebrated her 21 years as our Rector, and our shared growth as a Christian community. We gathered in the fellowship hall at one of our neighboring churches, St. William of York Catholic Church, on the corner of Edmondson Avenue and Cooks Lane.

A humorous presentation from David Mountain highlighted Flo's love for dogs; cultural diversity in all its forms, including food; and her dance moves! Check out the [video on St. B's website](#) to see for yourself! Cathy Brookman joked about life after Flo – How will we ever get people back to their pews after passing the peace? Angel Jackson and Marty Clark read stories that people had shared about Flo from women's retreats, youth pilgrimages, and more.

The Right Reverend Bob Ihloff blessed the food and the community, and also shared his own reminiscences of Flo. And The Reverend Thelma Smullen was the overall emcee for the evening and kept it all rolling.

Behind the scenes, everything was organized and beautified by the "Three Ns Committee" – The Reverend Neva Brown, Nicete Moodie, and Nancy Nicaise.

Senior Warden Michael Sarbanes gave his personal thanks to Flo and presented the monetary gift donated from the congregation and beyond – the traditional farewell "purse." Flo wrapped up the program with her own brief remarks of gratitude, noting how much we have shared and accomplished in our mutual ministry, and the bright future that St. B's has ahead of us.

St. Bartholomew's choir presented a very special song for the event, sung to the tune of that popular 1925 song "If You Knew Susie (Like I Know Susie)" – the words are provided on page 13 so you can fully appreciate the humor and wisdom. Debbie McClellan showed her tremendous talent for alternative lyrics in this adaptation. Part of a hearty and joy-filled send-off for our beloved Florence!



The "Triple N" Planning Team:
Nicete Moodie, The Reverend Neva Brown, and Nancy Nicaise.

Celebration Dinner for Flo's Ministry at St. B's



Flo surrounded by St. B's Wardens



Celebrating Flo's Ministry at St. B's in Song

If You Knew Florence (Like We Know Florence)

We all have a rector known as Florence,
 Soon to pick up rod and reel and go.
 Though you all know, we love her so,
 Let's tell her how right now....

Verse 1:

If you knew Florence like we know Florence,
 Oh! Oh! Oh what a gal!
 There's none so classy as this fair lassie,
 Oh, oh, oh my goodness she's so sassy,
 Leader, chanter, she does it all –
 Praying, teaching, there's no one can beat
 her preaching,
 If you knew Florence like we know Florence,
 Oh! Oh what a gal!

Verse 3:

If you knew Florence like we know Florence,
 Oh! Oh! Oh what a gal!
 She saved our bacon, then had us makin'
 Tons of norms and goals and blazing beacons.
 Soon came Jigsaw, and her eyes saw
 Vital mission right here in West Baltimore --
 If you knew Florence like we know Florence,
 Oh! Oh what a gal!

Verse 2:

If you knew Florence like we know Florence,
 Oh! Oh! Oh what a gal!
 Pandemic looming, she mastered Zooming,
 Kept us going all against the odds,
 She has her quirks, but she never shirks –
 All's consensus! No disputes to foul the
 works,
 If you knew Florence like we know Florence,
 Oh! Oh what a gal!

Verse 4:

If you knew Florence like we know Florence,
 Oh! Oh! Oh what a gal!
 She'll bait a mean hook for many a trout
 brook,
 Oh, she'll keep the fish on tenterhooks.
 May her new life, freedom and ease,
 Give her hours with her books and with her
 Brook!
 If you knew Florence like we know Florence,
 Oh! Oh what a gal!

In grateful celebration of Rev. Florence Ledyard's ministry with the vibrant faith community at St. Bartholomew's Church, Baltimore.

Based on the song "If You Knew Susie" by Buddy DeSylva and Joseph Meyer (1925); brilliant new lyrics by Debbie McClellan (2023).

St. B's Women's Retreat: Bodacious Women!

by Virginia Antevil

The theme of this year's Women's Retreat at the Claggett Center was "Bodacious Women." The beautiful and tranquil setting of this unique center lends itself to contemplation and discussion--perfect for a respite and retreat from the clutter and disruption that sometimes surrounds us in our everyday lives.

We were fortunate to enjoy the dynamic team leadership of Katharine Armentrout, former Deacon at St. B's, and our retiring Rector, The Reverend Flo Ledyard for this event. Under their guidance, our group first explored the meaning of the term "bodacious," looked at the various personal qualities that might be embodied by this one word, and expanded its definition in the sense that "bodaciousness" can be multidimensional. We looked at historical examples of women worthy of admiration for their bodacious qualities, and then engaged in an in-depth examination of several bodacious women in biblical scripture. (For further perusal, Katharine and Flo directed us to "Jesus and Those Bodacious Women: Life Lessons from One Sister to Another", authored by Linda A. Hollies.)

As a new attendee to this annual event, I was warmly welcomed, and departed with new friends and valuable insights. It was an enriching experience. But most of all, I left with a sense of encouragement that in a world of turmoil, we all have the innate capacity to become "bodacious women of faith."

Interested in a St. B's Women's Facebook Group?

by Drew Brown

In follow-up to an idea that springs from the Women's Retreat —

If you are interested in helping to create or join a St. B's Women's Facebook group (private, moderated), please e-mail Drew Brown (molecol@yahoo.com) with the following information:

- ◆ Name & Email address (which you are willing to share with the group)
 - ◆ Are you willing to take a turn as an administrator?
 - ◆ What name would you like for the group?
 - ◆ How extensive should the membership be?
 - ◆ What questions should we ask of those interested in joining?
 - ◆ Other?
-

Name Tags!

by Bryan MacKay

Nothing, absolutely nothing, is more welcoming than calling someone by name. But if you're like me, I forget a name about ten nanoseconds after being introduced. That's why we wear nametags at St. B's. It's welcoming to new-ish folks, and it also helps them learn the names of folks who have been here since Moses wore short pants. And now, we'll have an Interim Rector, to whom each and every one of us is new. So, if you still have your nametag, possibly buried in your junk drawer under a half ton of ephemera, pull it out, dust it off, and wear it every Sunday. If you can't find it, or never had one, please contact Maggie at the church office or [by email](#) — real soon. She's making a list, and will get a new batch made in the near future. It's free!



In case you're wondering, our name tags are magnetic, so you don't ruin any clothing. And each has a spiffy Episcopal logo! If you make a habit of misplacing your nametag, you can even keep it on a magnetic white board at the back of the church. (We try to think of everything!)

See you in church — with your nametag!

— Bryan is Chair of the Newcomers' Committee

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.

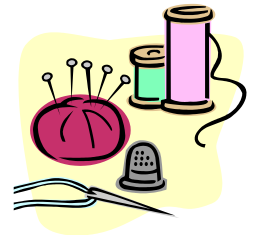


Please contact Leigh Snowden at lsnowde1@msn.com for more information or for the Zoom link.

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.



2023 Men's Retreat at Claggett

“Storytelling, Spirituality & Shadowboxing”.

Living faith in our heads, hearts, and bodies.

Fundamentals for an imaginative spirituality and a deep, grounded, integrated life of faith.

by Peter Griffin, with David Mountain

Several men from St Bs attended the 2023 Men's Retreat including James Graham (also on duty as Claggett Host for the week end), Jerry Hazelwood, David Mountain and me. Holy Nativity, Pimlico, had the largest contingent including the Rev. Bill Fallowfield and our own Deidre McElroy's father.

Even though I participated in planning the Retreat, I didn't understand the topic and even felt suspicious about what we would get out of it. Without realizing what was happening, The Rev. Matt Humm, St. Paul's, Prince Frederick, pulled us into a transforming spiritual experience that I still can't even describe. He led us to experience God during the Retreat but not through persuasion or argument--He led us through a wide range of stories. He taught us and transformed us through the stories.

Rev. Matt encouraged us to craft our own stories using techniques he taught us. Through several sessions in small groups, we honed our story-telling skills. Telling our stories in small groups let us see personal or even intimate aspects about each other. Our stories of experiences and events provided ways, without directly expressing ourselves, to let each other into our lives. Rev Matt also made sure we understood how to use our new story-telling skills to “spread the good news.”

Shadowboxing surprised me too. We learned boxing jabs and punches, “day and night” stretch exercises and other moves. I didn't understand that Matt was bringing us closer together in a physical and spiritual sense. He's also a fan of martial arts and worked on them while we met in small groups. I thought it was like his prayer time. Perhaps it's the way many experience inspiration while hiking in the woods.

Retreats can arouse curiosity about ourselves. I met a college Spanish instructor during the Retreat and thought I want to get back my Spanish fluency of 50

years ago. I also met an immigration expert from the Diocese who could lead me to action in place of mere passion about immigration. The Rev. Christopher Garcia, Christ Church, Port Republic, told a story about the resilience young children have but that adults lose. Then Bill Fallowfield talked about his own passions and research to vividly describe the lives of individual enslaved persons who lived and died where Claggett now thrives. Could I carry it further to inform the reparations issue?

James Ryder, Claggett's Co-Executive Director, led us on a very chilly tour of the historical barn restoration project. In a few months, the barn will have a large space for much bigger group meetings and will significantly expand the dining space -- particularly useful for large student and summer camp groups.

The Rev. Dr. Rick Larabee, Christ Church, West River, led our Healing Service Saturday night. It followed a new format, but still included private individual prayers with choice of clergy. We skipped our usual evening card game this year. It formerly supported Episcopal activities in Palestine. We still enjoyed time in the evening with singing, snacks and beverages.

The Eucharist Sunday morning serves to bring us all together and tie up what we've been learning. Before beginning the service, Rev. Matt told us the story of Isaiah's two sons. The good son who served his father and the bad son who was profligate, stunk and was furry. Through the power of his story, I saw myself in the bad son. I'm the bad brother—goofed off with pals all weekend in the country, drank a lot, ate too much, didn't care about fats and salt, didn't get enough sleep, didn't exercise, stank because I never showered, wore the same clothes all weekend [except boxers and socks], forgot about prescriptions, etc. and am furry as well. Rev. Matt was so persuasive in his story that the next morning I dreamed I was the bad son.

2023 Men's Retreat at Claggett (*continued*)

(Continued from page 16)

The Rev. Christopher read the Gospel in a personal, intimate manner that fit perfectly with the story telling techniques we had learned. We sat in a large circle and he stood in the middle. I believe he looked each of us directly in the eyes as he began, "Jesus said, 'You are the salt of the earth'". Then Rev. Matt's sermon told a story focused on the essential properties of salt including how salt serves to preserve meat and other things. Then Rev. Matt told us that Jesus calls us to preserve the Kingdom of God.

Well, maybe all Retreats should start off feeling a little dodgy and have us wonder about the substance but then build through the days and nights to end with a powerful, clear message that lingers not just in our minds but also in our hearts

Men's Breakfast at the Double T Diner

by Brad Schlegel

A group of men from St. B's and some friends gathered again for breakfast on Saturday, February 11 at 9:00 am. I arrived at 9:30 and found most people had already ordered. I asked for two poached eggs, a slice of ham, and home fries. My order arrived in less than 10 minutes and was delicious. I sat next to Steve Harvey, a friend of Ed Hostetter; he is Buddhist and we had a healthy discussion of his faith. I also enjoyed talking with Ed, with whom I share an interest in Philosophy. It was good to see everyone.

I plan to attend again in April and thereafter. We gather on the second Saturday of the month, so our next outing will be on March 11. Meet at the Double T Diner, located at the corner of Route 40 and Rolling Road.

Need more info or a ride? Contact Brian Rosenberger (bjrosenberger9273@gmail.com) or Marty Clark (peaceclark1@gmail.com).



Christian Formation for All Ages

At St B's we make sure to provide opportunities and thoughtful but fun info for all ages. So for the month of March here are your choices!

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 (mostly) 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 meets on an occasional Sunday morning at 9:15 on Zoom. It is for older youth and adults. [Here's the Zoom link.](#)

This month we will gather on March 19. Joe Twist will lead a discussion about “Death by Choice” — something we might want to ponder at some time. Please join us! Everyone is welcome.

Wednesdays Evenings in Lent

We'll meet at 7:00 pm, beginning March 8, for a series titled “**Exploring the Material and the Mystical: Following Jesus into the Unknown,**” led by The Reverend Pan Conrad. During Lent, we will have an opportunity to experience the wilderness and learn about the relationship between exploring spiritual landscapes and exploring “this fragile Earth, our island home” with the Holy Spirit as our guide. Pan will share some of her images and experiences exploring this world together with reflections on Jesus' wilderness experience and our own explorations of the metaphorical wilderness. [We'll gather on Zoom](#) — and possibly in person in the Parish House. Stay tuned for more!

Exploring the Material and the Mystical: Following Jesus Into the Unknown

Wednesday Evenings During Lent, beginning March 8 at 7:00 pm
[On Zoom](#) — and possibly in person in the Parish House

Led by The Reverend Pan Conrad

Children's Word

by Steve Miller and Kobey DeVale

The past 4 weeks have produced busy and fun times for the Children's Word class at St. B's! Since the start of the new year, consistently 3-5 children have been joining teachers Kobey DeVale and Steve Miller in the Undercroft right before the Gospel reading 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, though sometimes we mix it up a bit when that adult lesson is not so easily adaptable to a message for kids ages 3-7 or 8.

Major themes tackled by the Children's Word crew this month included Discipleship, Blessings (the Beatitudes), Anger and Forgiveness, and the Transfiguration. So you can see that we covered a lot of ground! Our discussion of Discipleship included shares about what it means to be invited to be a part of God's family, what it means to be a disciple, and how we can share the message of love that Jesus teaches us. To remind us of our discipleship, we cut out paper hearts and wrote our name and "Follow Jesus!" We had a lot of fun talking about Blessings and the Beatitudes—in what ways each of us is blessed, how sometimes what seems like a not-so-great thing can actually be or turn into a blessing, and how we can share our blessings with others. For this lesson, we each chose our favorite Beatitude and wrote it on a paper cut-out that we turned into a necklace. Interestingly, all the children chose "Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth." Next we talked about how Jesus taught his disciples—and teaches us—how to be nice to others even when they are not so nice to us. To reinforce this lesson, we decorated wooden heart door-hangers with messages of love and forgiveness. Finally,

we discussed the Transfiguration of Jesus and how the disciples learned that their friend and teacher Jesus was actually God's son! Our children decorated paper plates to share the message that we are all transformed by Jesus' love.

We were blessed to have various members of the St. B's Youth join us in Children's Word during the last month. A special shout-out to Audrey Chambers, Lex and Mark DeVale, and Phoebe Johnson for helping with crafts and keeping our children engaged. They are the best!

Just a reminder that we warmly welcome ALL children ages 3-fifth grade who attend worship to join us in our Children's Word discussions and activities. It's a wonderful way for them to escape those hard pews for 20-30 minutes, learn the Gospel, and create fellowship with others their age. Please let Kobey DeVale (kdevale@devale.net), Steve Miller (stmiller@umbc.edu) or Maggie Caldwell (mcaldwell@stbs-md.org) know if you would like more information about Children's Word, and/or if you would like to be involved in any way with it.

— Steve and Kobey are Children's Word Leaders

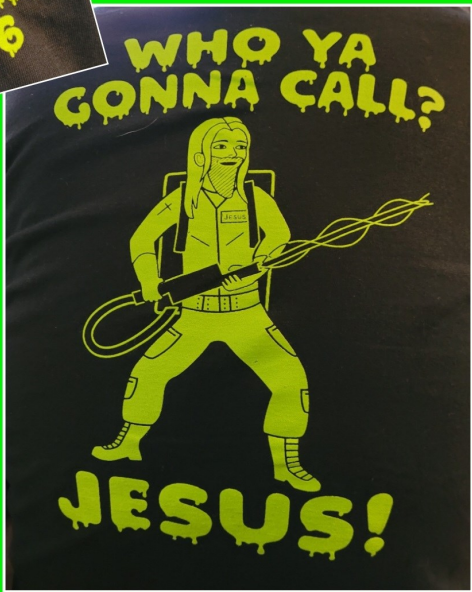


St. B's Youth at Happening 16!





**HAPPENING
#16**



2/10 - 2/12/2023

YOUTH GROUP SCOOP

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 (mostly) alternate Sundays. March gatherings are scheduled on the 5th and 19th. For more information, please contact Leaders Kathie or Marty Clark (peaceclark1@gmail.com). Gather for fun, fellowship, and faith. Invite a friend!

New Beginnings!

April 21-23

New Beginnings, a retreat for middle school youth, is a fantastic weekend at Camp Wright in Stevensville, MD. Previous New Beginners who have reached high school are the designer team and staff for the weekend. This makes for a perfect sense of what it means to be a part of the community. A whole weekend dedicated to youth working through the transitions of middle school through talks, skits and small group. A place where they can find community in Christ and mentors in high school students. Click [here](#) to register.

EYE (Episcopal Youth Event)!

July 4-8 in College Park, Maryland

For those who have completed grades 9, 10, 11, or 12; Cost: \$400.

Attending EYE as a youth is a once-in-a-lifetime experience. EYE a transformational event created by youth for youth. Youth who crave connection and want to see that the Church is bigger than their congregations and diocese should attend this 2,000-person contemplative worship experience with Presiding Bishop Curry preaching and live music. They will hear speakers from around the world, including our very own Rev. Chris McCloud. Youth from all nine provinces in The Episcopal Church are on the planning team. Attending EYE this year is coming home to a new age of faith meant to reinvigorate a post-Covid church experience. Church is here for our youth and the Church wants to know what our youth are looking for.

[Learn more and register here.](#)



Lent Madness — A Lenten Discipline That's Fun!

Lent Madness is an amusing way to learn about some of the men and women comprising the Church's Calendar of Saints. Here's how it works: 32 saints are placed into a tournament-like single elimination bracket. Each pairing remains open for a set period of time and people vote for their favorite saint. 16 saints make it to the Round of the Saintly Sixteen; eight advance to the Round of the Elate Eight; four make it to the Faithful Four; two to the Championship; and the winner is awarded the coveted Golden Halo.

It's fun to play! Visit the website <https://www.lentmadness.org/>. You can sign up for daily email notifications or connect via Facebook. And you can find a link to print your own bracket if you like. Vote for your favorite saint each day during Lent and see who wins the 2023 "Golden Halo."

2023 LENTMADNESS.ORG

Ancient & Apostolic

- Augustine of Hippo
- Hippolytus of Rome
- Monica
- Joanna the Myrrhbearer
- Simeon Bachos
- Blandina
- Brendan of Clonfert
- David of Wales

Mostly Monastics

- Martin de Porres
- Maximus the Confessor
- Cuthmann of Steyning
- Leoba
- Bach
- Harriet Monsell
- Scholastica
- Richard Hooker

FAITHFUL 4

ELATE 8

SAINTLY 16

ROUND OF 32

Royals Roundup

- Olga of Kiev
- Bertha of Kent
- Stanislaus the Martyr
- Edmund
- Chief Seattle
- Botolph
- Juan Diego
- John Donne

Modern Mayhem

- Jonathan Daniels
- Rutilio Grande
- Josephine Bakhita
- Eric Liddell
- Dorothy L. Sayers
- Enmegahbowh
- Florence Li Tim-Oi
- Nicolaus von Zinzendorf



THE GOLDEN HALO



Images from Dancing Saffron West, Gallery of Nissa, San Francisco, California, reproduced with gracious permission. Icon artist: Mark Danks. Photo by: David Singer.






Sign Up for a Tour of Baltimore County's Recycling Center!

by Leah B. Kulp

Why can't plastic bags be recycled? How is single-stream recycling sorted? Does Baltimore County make money on recycling? Let's find out! Come and see!

Creation Caretakers has arranged a group tour of Baltimore County's Cockeysville Materials Recovery Facility (MRF), the physical plant where single stream recycling is sorted (the real deal, operated by the Baltimore County Department of Works Solid Waste Management). Our free, 90-minute tour is scheduled on a school holiday, 1:30 pm, Monday afternoon, April 3, 2023 (the day after Palm Sunday). Parishioners and friends fourth grade and up are invited!



Reservations are required as our group must consist of 10 to 30 participants (no more, no less). We will forward you the visitor's guide and arrange car pools, as parking space at the facility is limited. Please RSVP by email to Leah at elbiekay1@gmail.com with the subject line "Recycling Center Tour" to firm up your reservation and get directions.

See you there!

— Leah is Chairman of the Creation Caretakers

Property Update

by Dave Murray

- Learned how to operate the gas feed on the Parish House stove.
- Parish House heat (boiler system) required 4 separate calls to fix multiple problems.
- Requested evaluation of parish house boilers and oil tank longevity.
- Seeking estimates to fix/secure the 40 West entrance door.
- Signed up for a 5-year tractor maintenance plan.
- Annual evaluation of church & parish house slate roofs performed.
- Cleaned out our Rokeby Road property.
- Ordered new church/40 West door security and parking lot surveillance hardware.
- Finalizing construction drawings for the boiler replacement and new 40 West accessible entrance.
- Fixed PH kitchen drains under the sinks.
- Traced all unmarked circuits in the furnace room electric panel.



— Dave is a member of the Property Committee

Financial Position as of January 31, 2023

— Financial information is provided by John Schroeder, Treasurer

January 31, 2023	Current Month		Year to Date	
	Actual	Budget *	Actual	Budget *
Total Income	132,634.58	48,791.25	132,634.58	48,791.25
Total Expenses	<u>(55,985.65)</u>	<u>(51,985.13)</u>	<u>(55,985.65)</u>	<u>(51,985.13)</u>
Difference	76,648.93	(3,193.88)	76,648.93	(3,193.88)
* based on 2022 budget values				

St. B's Budget

by Michael Haynie

On pages 26 and 27, please find a copy of St. Bartholomew's 2023 Annual Budget, passed by our Vestry on Tuesday, February 21.

In addition to the 2023 budgeted revenue and expenses columns, also included is the church's actual 2022 performance to the 2022 budget for your comparison.

As we are under deadline to get this budget out to you, it is my intention to give a more detailed explanation of this budget and some of the changes in the *April Apostle*.

Please feel free to call or email me with any questions or concerns.

Mike Haynie, Finance Chair

mhaynie@globaltrainingcentersllc.com

443 604 3835

— Mike is Chair of the Finance Committee

St. Bartholomew's Vestry-Approved 2023 Budget

	Jan - Dec 22 Actual Performance	2022 Annual Budget	Approved 2023 Budget
Income			
40000 - Current Pledges	435,485.52	520,000.00	471,500.00
Faith Pledge	50,260.00		23,911.93
40300 - Prior Year Pledges	970.00	5,130.00	1,000.00
40500 - Open Plate	39,325.63	30,000.00	35,500.00
41000 - Special Envelope Offerings	2,201.00	2,600.00	2,600.00
42000 - Altar Guild Gifts	3,973.80	3,000.00	5,500.00
43000 - Community Use Donations	2,050.00	1,000.00	10,100.00
46000 - Special Projects Income	14,825.23	14,700.00	14,000.00
47000 - Interest & Divident Income	215.13	65.00	200.00
Property rental Income			
49000 - House Sale Income	9,000.00	9,000.00	25,000.00
Total Income	556,307.31	585,495.00	590,311.93
Gross Profit	556,307.31	585,495.00	590,311.93
Expense			
60100 - Diocesan Pledge	74,814.00	74,814.00	76,000.00
60104 - KIVA MicroLoans	3,701.31	4,088.00	2,066.09
60200 - Communication Ministry	1,469.79	1,800.00	1,500.00
60215 - Daughters of the King	250.00	250.00	250.00
60300 - Education Ministry	1,310.98	1,500.00	1,000.00
60327 - Youth Pilgrimage	3,000.00	3,000.00	0.00
60390 - Library	0.00	100.00	0.00
60391 - Archives	0.00	100.00	100.00
60399 - Parish Life	795.61	1,500.00	1,000.00
60600 - Music Ministry	4,710.55	5,000.00	4,800.00
60700 - Newcomers	0.00	91.00	100.00
60810 - Outreach Programs	0.00	2,031.00	0.00
60900 - Pastoral Care Ministry	34.25	100.00	100.00
60930 - Parish Nursing Program	0.00	500.00	250.00
61000 - Property Ministry	42,040.21	36,300.00	36,300.00
61065 - Landscape Committee	368.20	1,000.00	500.00
61097 - Safety & Security Committee	0.00	125.00	0.00
62000 - Special Projects Expense	2,021.60	500.00	500.00
62035 - Special Projects-Net	12,804.63	14,200.00	13,500.00
63000 - Stewardship	561.81	700.00	600.00
64000 - Worship Ministry	1,332.09	500.00	500.00
66000 - Vestry Expense	690.00	1,200.00	500.00

St. Bartholomew's Vestry-Approved 2023 Budget

70005 - Accounting Consultant/Resources	667.54	1,100.00	700.00
70006 - Altar Guild Expenses	7,098.51	5,500.00	5,500.00
70010 - Bank Fees	2,504.77	2,300.00	3,000.00
70013 - Conferences	580.00	575.00	575.00
70045 - Insurance Expense - Health	22,934.11	29,756.32	10,643.65
70060 - Insurance - Property/D&O	29,377.00	29,100.00	31,436.00
70065 - Insurance - Workman's Comp	1,079.00	1,320.00	1,300.00
70100 - Miscellaneous Expense	0.00	100.00	0.00
70103 - Office Expenses	11,130.63	10,500.00	10,500.00
70135 - Postage - office	712.00	840.00	800.00
70136 - Office Tech Support	455.00	400.00	400.00
70140 - Clergy Discretionary Expense	3,000.00	3,000.00	1,000.00
70145 - Rector's Hospitality	58.84	1,000.00	750.00
70180 - Taxes - SS/Medicare	12,898.53	12,502.00	15,589.08
70187 - Taxes - SECA (Ledyard)	7,144.33	7,144.44	6,549.05
70188 - Taxes - Property	2,641.59	2,900.00	2,900.00
70205 - Telephone - Church/PH/YH	4,951.13	4,700.00	5,200.00
70215 - Telephone - Rector (867-0068)	1,333.75	1,455.00	1,455.00
70220 - Utilities - BGE 4711 (Church)	13,149.10	10,200.00	12,500.00
70225 - Utilities - BGE 4713 (P.H.)	7,671.22	8,575.00	8,000.00
70230 - Utilities - BGE 4715 (youth)	3,367.36	2,664.00	3,500.00
70235 - Utilities - BGE - Rokeby	396.98		1,500.00
70244 - Utilities - Water	6,604.37	5,781.00	7,140.00
70270 - Utilities - Heating Oil Exp	10,854.27	10,500.00	10,500.00
80010 - Salaries	267,915.34	277,836.97	274,154.02
80910 - Child Care Salaries	1,520.10	2,478.00	1,600.00
80922 - Sunday School teacher salaries	0.00	1,500.00	0.00
81000 - Continuing Education Expenses	3,700.00	3,950.00	3,950.00
82000 - Pension Expenses	24,970.03	35,101.26	28,303.63
83000 - Travel Reimbursement Expenses	903.64	1,750.00	1,100.00
Total Expense	622,184.17	623,941.99	590,311.93
Net Income	-63,876.06	-38,446.99	0.00

Wanted: Artists and Crafters!

Showcase Your Work to a Great Audience for a Great Cause

by Mary Helen Sprecher

Are you an artist or a craftsperson? St. B's celebrates the arts and crafts community with its inaugural Artisan Market, to be held on Saturday, April 29 from 10:00 am-3:00 pm on the parish grounds. Right now, we're looking for people to get in on the ground floor of this amazing event.

The event will be open to all artists and craftspeople who are either members of St. B's or friends of St. B's. We're interested in providing a forum for anyone who wants to display their wares, whether they paint, draw, do woodworking, do photography, do mosaics, make jewelry, sculpt, quilt, sew, knit, crochet, make candles, do needlework – or honestly, anything else – there's a place here for you. All we ask is that any items displayed be appropriate for the church environment.

Display spaces are 8 feet x 10 feet, and those interested can purchase up to two spaces. Spaces are \$50 each, and St. B's can provide 1 table in either 6-foot or 8-foot lengths. Please note that all payments received are final; St. B's does not issue refunds. Please see the REGISTRATION FORM on page 28.

Those who exhibit need only pay their registration fee; they can reap all the proceeds from sales of their products. Exhibitors are responsible for making their own arrangements for sales (cash, credit, etc.); St. B's does not have the capability to process sales.

All monies collected from registration fees go toward the church's Outreach programs, which benefit the community.

The event will go on rain or shine; setup will be on the first and second floors of our Parish House, as well as outdoors, weather permitting (and if extra space is needed).

Oh, and shoppers... mark your calendars too! This is an excellent opportunity to pick up some amazing gifts and unique household items. There will be no charge for admission and, of course, parking is free.

For more information, contact Celeste Thurston at jazzedupct@comcast.net.

— Mary Helen is a member of the Outreach Committee



1st Annual Artisan Market

St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church – Baltimore

Saturday, April 29, 2023 – 10:00 am - 3:00 pm

Registration Form

This first **Artisan Market** is open to all artists and crafters who are members of St. Bartholomew's Church and/or who are friends of St. B's. **All items for sale must be made by the participating artisan/crafter.**

Please complete this form and return it with the \$50 payment (per 8-foot x 10-foot space; maximum 2 spaces) to Celeste Thurston at the email below. The Market will take place in our Parish House on the first and second floors as well as outdoors in the courtyard.

Organizers will determine indoor space assignments based on products' variety and weight. Any artisan opting for an outdoor space should indicate that preference. Show is rain or shine. Registration/payment deadline : April 1, 2023.

Name(or company name, if applicable): _____

Connection to St. B's (check one) Member Flea market contributor Local Friend of St. B's

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Product(s) you make: _____

Price range of your products: _____

Special needs: Electric: Yes No: Able to climb steps: Yes No

Do you need a table? If yes, please specify: 6-foot table 8-foot table

Note:

1. One table available per space from St. B's: First to register and pay get the tables; those who purchase two spaces are eligible to get two tables. You are welcome to use your own setup.

2. Make checks payable to: St. Bartholomew's Church.

3. All sellers are responsible for making and processing funds for their own sales; St. B's does not have the capability to process payments on site. Please come prepared for whichever way you expect to process sales.

Note: Artisan Market organizers reserve the right to review proposed items to assure that the items are appropriate for a church event.

Questions? Please contact Celeste Thurston: jazzedupct@comcast.net.

Organizers' Use only:

Space # _____

Registration received on _____

Check # _____

Date confirmation emailed _____

A Hope Harbor Hooray!

St B's formed Hope Harbor a number of years ago as a separate 501c3 to help individuals and families find financial and social security. Over the years it has done exactly that!

But this past year a new opportunity arose to shift the focus while staying true to the mission. So we are at an Hooray moment for Hope Harbor.

Hope Harbor will now exert its spiritual and financial resources in the service of housing in our sector of Baltimore. Housing is perhaps the most important avenue to financial and social security. So that will be the focus now.

To that end, a new board has been formed. There will always be 3 spots for St B's parishioners, but this ministry has also scooped up a plethora of community characters as well. So, clergy presence as well as community groups are now represented and our City Council District representative is also on the board.

In addition, there is an Advisory Committee with others who are invested in this new adventure.

It is still evolving but the board will meet in March, create a clear focus and scope, determine next steps, and elect officers.

On the board from St B's are Angel Jackson, David Mountain and Patricia Smith. On the Advisory Committee are Cathy Brookman and Daphne Cover.

At our meeting in February, the excitement and energy from these wonderful committed caring people was palpably high and strong. Quite amazing to be honest. The potential for this new path could be extraordinary.

So, prayers please for this wonderful shift. Hoorays for Hope Harbor and its old and new participants. And mostly a deep breath for our neighbors and what will "hope"fully be amazing opportunities for safe and secure futures.

Baltimore Peace Movement Peace Promise Weekend February 3, 4, and 5



Gracious and Grateful: Giving and Receiving in Times of Increasing Need

by William Webster

As we enter the third month of 2023, our neighbors struggle with housing, utilities, and putting food on the table as prices rise while COVID protections and assistance deplete. Strengthened by volunteers giving their time and local donors sharing their wealth, the 40 West Assistance and Referral Center continues to welcome an increasing number of neighbors seeking help.

Client Food Choice

40 West Center has returned to “Client Choice.” To minimize staff and client exposure to COVID-19 during the pandemic, the 40 West Center pre-bagged pantry food for distribution. Thus, our neighbors had little choice in the food they received. On January 23rd, pre-bagging of pantry food ended. Now, our neighbors can select their preferred food items. 40 West clients have expressed gratitude and have reported that they “love” the return to “Client Choice.”



To enhance this welcome change in food distribution, Susan Lundin, the 40 West Food Manager, has developed food purchase strategies to maximize the purchasing power of 40 West funds. In addition, food donations from individuals and businesses in the local community continue to help 40 West offer a variety of food from which our visiting neighbors can choose.

As we look towards spring, we anticipate that the need for food in our community will continue to grow. “Prices for food at home — what people buy at retailers to prepare their own meals — jumped 11.3% in January from a year earlier,” reported CBS Money Watch on February 14th citing information from the Labor Department. This outpaces an 8.7% cost-of-living increase Social Security recipients received for 2023. These food price increases disproportionately impact the low income people served by 40 West. The disparity between food cost and income is likely to get worse when, in March 2023, people lose enhanced food-stamp benefits due to expiring pandemic relief.

In short, our neighbors will look to the generosity of 40 West donors and volunteers more than they have in the past three years to continue to feed themselves and their families..

Utility Costs, Turn-offs, Rent and Evictions

40 West has been receiving an increasing number of requests for assistance with utility bills. Callers have reported that they have been referred to 40 West by the Mayor’s Office, DSS, and the Community Action Partnership (CAP) Centers for help. Recent calls by 40 West staff to CAP centers have resulted in wait times that extend beyond 40 minutes. Neighbors visiting 40 West for energy assistance have expressed gratitude to our staff for their assistance with submitting applications for energy assistance and helping them determine the status of their applications.

The Baltimore Sun reported on January 31, 2023, that statewide BGE issued 7,902 shutoffs in 2020; 27,846 in 2021 and 60,659 last year through October 2022. According to the Office of People’s Counsel, “126,000 customers with past-due bills either did not qualify for energy assistance or did qualify but were

Gracious and Grateful: Giving and Receiving in Times of Increasing Need

not getting it.” 40 West has anecdotal knowledge of these trends through its interactions with our neighbors.

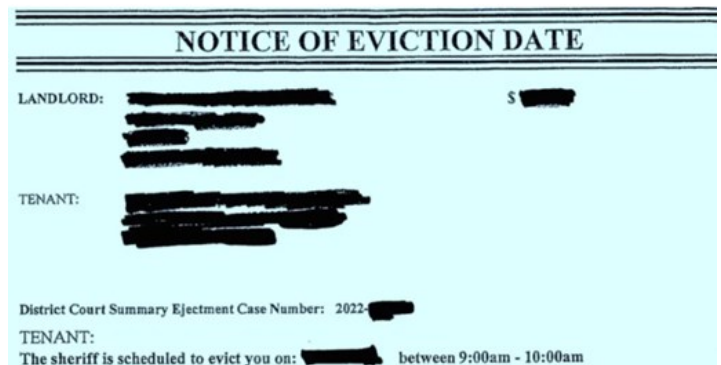
As of April 1st, only a 14-day notice will be required prior to turn-offs. The Office of the People’s Counsel said, “We’re very concerned that there will be this flood of terminations coming later in the spring, [C]ustomers are feeling the effects still of the pandemic, also of inflation and also from increased energy prices. So this is not the time to be eliminating or reducing protections for customers.”

Evictions

In the past few years, 40 West has referred neighbors to the Baltimore City Mayor’s Office of Children and Family Success for rental assistance and eviction prevention. That office stopped accepting applications for rental assistance from people facing eviction on February 3, 2023.

The Baltimore Banner reported on January 31, 2023 that “[t]he city has paid more than \$69 million to assist nearly 13,000 households. [...] The remaining funds will be almost entirely spent by mid-March. But it will satisfy only a small fraction of the more than 8,000 applications that are currently under review.”

Baltimore City residents are now turning to community organizations that provide rental assistance such as the 40 West Assistance and Referral Center. However, community organization funding is insufficient to meet the need. Often neighbors find themselves being referred from one community organization to another.



The Baltimore Banner report goes on to say that “[e]victions have increased rapidly in Baltimore City. In Baltimore, evictions this past September and November surpassed the 2019 tallies for those months, according to data provided by the Baltimore City Sheriff’s Office.”

There is no immediate relief for those facing eviction in Gov. Wes Moore’s \$63.1 billion budget released in January.

Gracious and Grateful

Neighbors visiting the 40 West Assistance Referral Center for help continue to be thankful for both the assistance and the referrals; however, one can easily sense among those needing help with utilities and rent their worries about an uncertain future.

40 West and its neighbors thank the many dedicated volunteers, generous donors and capable partners that help 40 West carry out its mission. Yet, the need is great. If you feel called to help, please reach out to us through email at info@40west.org or call and leave a message at 410-233-4357.

— Bill is Director of the 40 West Assistance and Referral Center, Inc.

CSA at St. B's



St. Bartholomew's Church will again be a pick-up site for the One Straw Farm CSA this year, with fresh fruits and vegetables available for pick up every Thursday afternoon between 3:30 and 7:00 pm. They are using a program to better enable the customization of your

share online each week, so you do need to register for it at the link below. You can rate your preferences ahead of time, adjust your custom box each week online, and purchase extra items if you choose. Join with your friends, purchase a share (either small, large, or jumbo), and then volunteer to staff the pick-up site a few times during the 24-week season, from June 8 – November 16, 2023. A great chance to get excellent produce, support local organic agriculture, and meet your neighbors!

2023 CSA Details:

Small/Half Share ~ 5 items/week = \$480

Large/Full Share ~ 9 items/week = \$840

Jumbo Share ~ 11-12 items/week = \$1080

For 24 weeks (06/8—11/16)

With the new payment plan, you have a choice of paying in four installments, or paying in full at the sign-up. You can also choose to have it delivered every other week, purchase extras, put your box on hold, or move it to another week if needed. And the CSA will also offer other specials during the season.

Here is the link to join this year, be sure to use the "2023 Custom Drop-off Share (THU)" button and sign up for the St. Bartholomew's location: <https://onestrawfarm.csaware.com/2023-custom-drop-off-share-thu-C2492>.

Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) is a mutually beneficial relationship between farmers and the community in which participants provide funding for the farmer in advance in exchange for produce during the growing season. Items vary according to the season (with 30 fruits and vegetables overall). For example, greens for the whole time, strawberries and sugar snap peas in spring, tomatoes and watermelon in summer, and hard squashes in fall.

Membership is accepted throughout the growing season, members who sign up after the season has begun may do so at a prorated price. If there are at least ten shares purchased at our site, One Straw Farm will provide some produce each week for a the 40 West Assistance and Referral Center).

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



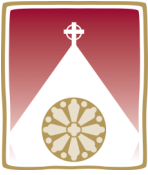
Lucy Marshall; Vince Marsiglia; Shirley Nathan Pulliam; Larry Brown; Sandra DeSilva; Mary Warfield; Phoenix DeVale; Irene Hardy; Stephanie Brooks-Wiggins; Tijon Cox and family; Rodney Michel; Tim Wolf; Zach, Dana, and Zoe Przybyszewski; Mary Lou Fralic; Vici-Lyn; Debbie McClellan; Margaret Schotto; Cathy Brookman; Bryce Kaspar; Barbara Haughey; Verna Harrison; Kate Henshall; John White; Dorn Wagner; Tiger Watts; Mercedes Hill; Jane Piché; Ben Barone; Larry Bucher; 40 West Assistance and Referral Center Clients; Heidi; Theresa Thomas; Meg and Shaun; Kathy and Andy; Don and Angel; Nathan; Tom McNeil; James Cooper; Kimberly Hayes; Marc Posner; Gloria Davitt; John and Janice Blouin; Ed McClellan; Sue Goodall; Hazel Twist Schroeder; Dana Coggan; Betty Shelton; Mason Henry; Steve Freeman; Camille and Marcus Madison and their family; Henry Novian; Stanley and Darlene; Mother Adrienne Hymes; April Asbury; Ian Fralic; those in our midst who are un- or under-employed & the homeless; AND any others we name at this time.

**Newsletter
DEADLINE**

**The deadline for the April issue of
The Apostle is Wednesday, March 15.**

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.



St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church

4711 Edmondson Avenue

Baltimore, Maryland 21229-1440

office phone: 410-945-7263

☞ 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 [website](#) 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.