

# The St. Barnabas' Reporter



## *Amazement in Approaching Advent*

Dear St. Barnabas' Church Family,

As I give thanks for the liturgical year that is past, and as I pray God's blessing for St. Barnabas' in the liturgical year to come, I'm mindful of Advent as a time for amazement at God's promises. It is in hope of recognizing God's new life in our ministry together this upcoming year that I share a condensed version of my 2022 annual report with you, below.

Can you believe that we were still making reservations for our indoor Christmas Eve service, less than a year ago? I'm thankful for the adaptability of St. Barnabas' through the Omicron surge in the winter of 2022, during what will hopefully be the last time of exclusively virtual worship (so help us God). I'm also thankful for Bishop Porter Taylor's visit on February 20<sup>th</sup>, and especially that we were able to return to in-person worship in time for that visit. I am appreciative of all the St. Barnabasians who made the Bishop's visit such a great opportunity to reflect on the trials and tribulations of the pandemic, as well as the resilience of St. Barnabas' Church, to make it through. I'm grateful also for the Ski Trip, organized with such excellence by Keith Peyton.

It felt like an Easter miracle that our choir could be back to singing together for Holy Week and Easter Sunday. What an indescribable gift it was to celebrate our first Easter with Dr. David Palmer leading our choir as our new Music Minister. I am also very appreciative of Leigh Kennedy's leadership with our Music Minister Search Committee, and her excellence as a servant leader as the whole committee undertook its work of discernment with great care and dedication. And I am very thankful that Dr. David Palmer was willing to answer the call to serve and lead among us!

How amazing was it that as we began our program year together this September and that we were able to celebrate our 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary as a congregation. What an amazing occasion, to hear from Joy Lyles, the Rev. Linda Wofford Hawkins, the Rev. Canon Carol Cole Flanagan, and others about the history of our church. Our parish timeline was a fantastic accomplishment that could not have happened without the leadership and contributions of Ellen Riddle, Behn Ayala, and so many others. I'm also inspired when I consider the foundational moments of the first sixty years of St. Barnabas' here in Annandale. Countless individuals helped to make the weekend a success, and I must say I

*(continued next page)*

The Rev. John Bolin Shellito  
Rector

### **SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST**

- *Celebrating Christmas-tide*
- *Parish Ski Trip - Presidents' Weekend*
- *Adult Forum Advent Series: The First Century of Christianity*
- *Parish Workdays*
- *Sermon Series: Three's Company*
- *Grief Support Circle*
- *Cuba Mission*
- *Contribute While You Shop - Amazon Smile*

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**St. Barnabas'  
Episcopal Church**

4801 Ravensworth Road  
Annandale, VA 22003  
703-941-2922

***Parish Staff***

The Rev. John Bolin Shellito  
*Rector*

David Palmer  
*Music Minister*

Catherine Dubas  
*Parish Administrator*

Maria Bottlick  
*Bookkeeper*

James Harris, *Sexton*

Delilah Stearns, *Nursery*

Randolph Jones  
*2022 ASYP Tutor Coordinator*

***Vestry & Parish Officers***

Ellen Riddle  
*Senior Warden*

Larry Stark  
*Junior Warden*

John Westerlund  
*Treasurer*

PJ Kennedy  
*Assistant Treasurer*

Ann Sayles  
*Register*

Behn Ayala

Sam Batten

Sheena Friend

Beth Harper

Shirley Newman

Norma Ricketts

Dawn Schaefer

—  
Catherine Dubas  
*Newsletter Editor*

***Sunday  
Worship Schedule***

8 a.m. Holy Eucharist

10:15 a.m. Holy Eucharist

***Amazement*** (continued from p. 1)

distinctly remember Theresa Merchant and the Riddles pulling out some righteous throwing skills for the Dunk Tank.

There has been an additional occasion for rejoicing and gratitude this fall, in that a generous vanguard of St. Barnabas' leaders has allowed us to pay some of our blessings forward, by funding the purchase of a new downtown parish house for our sister church, San Juan Bautista. I am thankful for Len LeRoy's commitment to our relationship with that parish, so that we can continue to be a blessing to one another. The parish house will house the recently and aptly named "St. Barnabas' Diner", in honor of the generous contributions from St. Barnabasians who helped to make that kitchen space possible.

Closer to home, I'm also very thankful for Ann Sayles' leadership in making the annual Parish Retreat happen at Shrine Mont, so that we could benefit from the leadership and wisdom of Monnie+ and Mareca as we engaged with the history of racism in our nation and world, and as we sought to be a part of God's establishment of peace and justice and healing in our world. Beth Harper and Dawn Schaefer have been key leaders in helping us to be a congregation that continues to fight racism, guiding a group of St. Barnabasians in a Sacred Ground Circle this summer, as well as in our Sacred Ground Retreat this fall.

I can not fully describe my gratitude in words, in terms of how appreciative I am of the many different ways that St. Barnabasians are answering the call to be active servant leaders here in northern Virginia, and beyond. It is a privilege to work with the Vestry and the Committees of this church. I have been deeply blessed by Ellen Riddle's leadership as Senior Warden and by Larry Stark's leadership as Junior Warden. I am deeply appreciative of the leadership of Maria Bottlick, Catherine Dubas, James Harris, Randolph Jones, Dr. David Palmer, and Delilah Stearns, as our staff. The Vestry and other congregational leaders have been so adaptable, so good-humored and also so gracious, I have felt both humbled and inspired to share in the ministry of this congregation as we all seek to answer God's call to curiosity, care, and creativity in our daily lives, in Christ's name. I am thankful.

With gratitude,  
John+

**St. Barnabas' Mission:  
Serving our community, the world, and each other  
through the love of Jesus Christ**

## A "Note" from David Palmer

### *Christmas Out of Context*

by David Palmer, Music Minister

As I write this, Sara and I are in Hamilton, Ohio celebrating Christmas with our son and his wife. Christmas in November? Yep. Sara calls it "Thanksmas." For a few reasons, we moved up the date of our Christmas visit, as we did last year. Maybe we'll keep moving up the date until we're celebrating Christmas in June. I'm joking of course, but I had a church musician friend in the early 80s who would listen to her Christmas records during the summer when she could enjoy the music and messages outside of the frantic, commercialized, and often garish context of our American Christmastime.

By 1984, I was experiencing Christmas in a completely different context, as I was working as an Anglican missionary in Bolivia. As you know, Bolivia is in the southern hemisphere, where the longest night of the year is June 23 (the feast of St. John). Christmas occurs at the beginning of summer in Bolivia, so many aspects of the American and European celebration of Christmas are irrelevant if not absurd there. Jingle Bells? Let It Snow? In the Bleak Mid-Winter? Sara and I were living in tropical Santa Cruz in 1986 when we had a couple of English and Scottish friends over for lunch on Christmas Day, after which we sang and played Christmas carols – while we sweated!

Taking Christmas out of the context we're accustomed to can ruin the festivities for some people. We cherish our traditions: they unite us, express our collective joys and sorrows, and connect our spirituality to aesthetics. So it takes a special reason for us to celebrate Christmas out of our usual context. In the foreign service? Visiting a relative? Spending the holidays abroad or in the sunny South? Such experiences *can* be moments of homing in on the deeper significance of Christmas. Jimmy Buffett has recorded several Christmas songs that are in a Caribbean context, including a Sailor's Christmas:

*The sailor spends his Christmas in a harbor on the hook.  
Caye con les, no work today, let's shell the ol' logbook.  
The waterfront is reveling, the season has begun.  
The sailor spends his Christmas in a harbor having fun.*

No snow here, but no suggestion of deeper meaning on the level of God coming to dwell with humanity. John Prine wrote poignantly of Christmas in Prison:

*The search light in the big yard  
Swings round with the gun  
And spotlights the snowflakes  
Like the dust in the sun.  
It's Christmas in prison:  
There'll be music tonight;  
I'll probably get homesick.  
I love you. Goodnight.*

(continued on next page)

## Baptized Into the Household of God



### Brian Ibrahim Koroma

Sponsors:  
Michelle Paul  
Paulina Kanu  
Francine Conteh  
Malia Conteh

### Paradise Sky Koroma

Godparents:  
Kathleen & Larry  
Stark

All Saints' Sunday  
November 6, 2022

~

*We receive you into the  
household of God.  
Confess the faith of Christ  
crucified, proclaim his  
resurrection, and share  
with us in his eternal  
priesthood.  
BCP p. 308*



## December

Michelle Paul  
 Ciaran Jackson  
 Bernard Blair  
 Val Nelson  
 David Wright  
 Ginger Braddon  
 Lorrie Scattergood  
 Karen Steidel  
 Cindy McLaughlin  
 Alusine Kanu  
 Colin Agnew  
 Connie Gribbin

## January

Bob Gribbin  
 Ken Mittelholtz  
 Elise Batten  
 Darcy Elliott  
 Peter Badger  
 Leigh Kennedy  
 Blue Kennedy  
 Jordan Kennedy  
 Leah Westerlund  
 Jacob Dugger  
 Maggie Bottlick  
 Tim Greer  
 Grace Robbins  
 George Sinclair

## Christmas Out of Context *(continued from p. 3)*

The narrator is definitely not in their preferred context for Christmas. Yet, the Savior said that if we visit people in prison, we are visiting him. James Brown wrote compassionately of the Christmas experience of the less well-off in *Santa Claus Go Straight to the Ghetto*:

*Fill every stocking you find.  
 The kids are gonna love you so.  
 Fill every stocking you find.  
 You know that they need you so.  
 I'm begging you, Santa Claus,  
 Go straight to the ghetto.*

Maybe your Christmas isn't dependent on snow, or the reception of gifts, or any particular song or celebration but is experienced in giving to the needy.

As a missionary, I was committed to adopting my new country and culture as much as possible, which meant, at times, relinquishing the food, music, and ways of doing things that had been so much a part of my culture until then. I think I had been increasingly disaffected with the celebration of Christmas anyway; its magic gradually dissipated as I realized how much of my younger experience was based on the Santa myth and lust for gold (presents) and how our culture was continuously adding glitz, music (e.g., the popular *Grandma Got Run Over by a Reindeer*), and traditions that seemed farther and farther from the affirmation that the Lord of love had entered humanity in poverty to embrace suffering and every aspect of human experience. God is here to dwell in us and calls us to repent and follow him. In the words of the familiar carol,

*How silently, how silently,  
 the wondrous gift is giv'n!  
 So God imparts to human hearts  
 the blessings of his heav'n.  
 No ear may hear his coming,  
 but in this world of sin,  
 where meek souls will receive him, still  
 the dear Christ enters in.*

Merry Christmas!  
 David Palmer

P.S. As I wrote this article, Southwestern Ohio received its first snow of the season!

## Birthdays



We include a list of birthdays in each issue of the Reporter. Please make sure your information in Realm (our parish database) is up-to-date. Also, please contact the Parish Office if your name is missing and you would like it included.

**Celebrating Christmastide at  
ST. BARNABAS' EPISCOPAL CHURCH**

**Card Making & Cookie Decorating**

Saturday, December 10th ▪ 12 Noon-3 PM  
Richardson Room and Kitchen

**Caroling**

Sunday, December 11th ▪ Gather at church at 3 PM  
Refreshments back at church following caroling

**Breakfast with Santa**

Saturday, December 17th ▪ 9 AM-12 Noon

**Greening the Church**

Sunday, December 18th following the 10:15 AM service

**Christmas Eve**

Saturday, December 24th  
4:30 PM Choral Prelude ▪ 5 PM Festival Holy Eucharist

**Christmas Eve Compline via Zoom**

Saturday, December 24th ▪ 9 PM via Zoom

**Christmas Day Service**

Sunday, December 25th ▪ 10:15 AM (one service)

**Service of Lessons & Carols**

Sunday, January 1st ▪ 10:15 AM

**Epiphany TGIF**

Friday, January 6th ▪ 6-8 PM

**Epiphany Pageant**

Sunday, January 8th ▪ 10:15 AM

## Parish Ski Trip - Presidents' Weekend



Plan now to join the St. Barnabas' group on Presidents' Weekend (February 17-20, 2023) at the Canaan Valley Resort, West Virginia for winter fun and fellowship both for skiers/snowboarders and non-skiers/snowboarders. The resort has improved its snowmaking ability on the ski slopes and the tubing park. Pastimes include relaxing by the fireplace, ice skating, and trips to nearby Davis, WV. Our package includes lodging Friday through Sunday nights, breakfasts Saturday, Sunday, and Monday, and dinners Saturday and Sunday, as well as group rates on lift tickets Saturday through Monday and ski/snowboard rentals, and discounts on tubing. For more information, please contact Keith Peyton or Ken Mittelholtz.

## ACCA News - Annandale Christian Community for Action

**Challenge Campaign** - ACCA's major fund-raising project is under way now through January 31, 2023. Donations support ACCA's emergency rent and food assistance to neighbors in need, the Child Development Center, and other ACCA assistance programs. To donate, please make your check payable to ACCA with Challenge Campaign noted in the memo line, and mail it to 7200 Columbia Pike, Annandale VA 22003 or give it to Camille. You can also designate ACCA in a check payable to St. Barnabas' or make a gift through Realm.



**Workplace Giving** - If you give through a workplace giving campaign, please consider designating ACCA to receive your donation. The designation numbers for ACCA are: United Way Workplace Campaigns - #8058 and Combined Federal Campaign - #58934.

**Furniture** - Our next turn to help the ACCA Furniture Ministry will be January 28 from 8 a.m. to 11 a.m. Volunteers deliver donated furniture to needy families and pick up donations. We meet at the warehouse, on the grounds of Annandale United Methodist Church, 6935 Columbia Pike.

**First Aid Kits** - Thanks to the Youth Group for decorating and assembling 48 first aid kits at our annual Parish Retreat (Shrine Mont). The kits were given to the ACCA Pantry, and will be distributed with deliveries of groceries and hygiene products to those in need.

For more information on ACCA programs or to volunteer, please contact Ken or Camille Mittelholtz or the Parish Office.

## Fr. James Hughes' Discussions at Sunday Adult Forums in Advent

### *The First Century of Christianity*

All are invited to attend a special Adult Forum Advent series conducted by our frequent guest preacher and celebrant, Fr. James Hughes. Fr. Hughes will present four Adult Forums on the initial 100 years of Christianity.

The series examine how Christianity - from a strange start in Galilee - grew in its first century. The discussions draw on the work of the New Testament professor Udo Schnelle at the University of Gottingen (Germany).

The series will open with an examination of the world Christ enters. The focus will then turn to the early believers and their church in Jerusalem; next the early missions and churches outside Jerusalem; and then the consultative gathering of Apostles and Paul's mission.

After a break for Christmas and Epiphany tide, the series will resume in Lent with other aspects of Christianity's early growth. Fr. Hughes generously offers the presentations *gratis*. In gratitude, the Vestry along with the Rector has created the Fr. James Hughes Fund. The fund will provide financial support for Christian Education at St. Barnabas'.

Please join our good friend in this exploration of our faith at the Sunday Forums in Advent and later in Lent. The discussions will take place in the Richardson Room beginning at 9:15 a.m.

## Parish Workdays November 5 and December 3

Our next Parish Workday is scheduled for **Saturday, December 3**. We will do a second round of leaf-raking and grounds clean-up. The rain date is December 4.

Thanks to all who helped with the Parish Workday on November 5. There was a wonderful turnout—a group of 25 volunteers completed much leaf raking and other grounds cleanup. We especially appreciate help from our young people: Laura, Leah, Blue, Joey, Joaquin, Xochi, Joshua, Noah, Adam, Cat, and Amos. We thank Ellen, Andy, and Jessica Riddle for organizing the youth participation and lunch, and Mark Patterson for his leadership of work in the Peace Patio. Other volunteers included John +, Haley Bolin Shellito's parents, Wendy Williams, James Harris, Katie Westerlund, Dawn Schaeffer, and Molly Newling. - Camille Mittelholtz



## In the Presence of God

*We pray for God's strength and healing for ...* Bernard Blair, Wayne Bottlick, Jean Anne Braddon, Charles Camp, Cricket Camp, Margot Donnelly, Rotha Frye, Preston George, Lee Gibbs, Linda Hamerschlag, James Harris, Roger Hefferan, Sharon Jones, Alusine Kanu, Joy Lyles, Tom Lyles, Cindy McLaughlin, Helen Mosher, Shirley Newman, Beth Phillips, Grace Rampersaud, Norma Ricketts, Barbara Rigden, Ann Sayles, Adam Schaefer, Dawn Schaefer, Jeff Schaefer, Noah Schaefer, Frank Spink, Karen Steidel, Mareea Wilson, Dana Wiseman, and Mary Yeaman.

*For the Church ...* the Archbishop of Canterbury, Justin Welby; our Presiding Bishop, the Most Rev. Michael Bruce Curry; and our Diocesan Bishops, the Rt. Rev. Susan Ellyn Goff and the Rev. Canon Mark Stevenson (Diocesan Bishop-Elect) and their families. For our Rector, the Rev. John Bolin Shellito, and his family; for Cindy McLaughlin (in discernment); for our vestry, wardens, and staff; and for the work and ministry of the Rev. Noel Josue Rodriguez Santos and his parish of San Juan Bautista in Palma Soriano, Cuba.

## Reporter Deadline, Office Hours, and Schedule

The deadline for the February 2023 issue of *The St. Barnabas' Reporter* is **Sunday, January 15**. Please submit announcements and/or photos to the Parish Office at [stbarnabaschurch@outlook.com](mailto:stbarnabaschurch@outlook.com). Hard copies of announcements and/or photos are welcome, as well.

Regular Office hours are Monday through Thursday from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.; the Parish Administrator works remotely on Fridays.

### OF NOTE:

- The Parish Office will be closed for the following holidays:
  - Christmas through the New Year's holiday (Monday, December 26 through Monday, January 2, reopening Tuesday, January 3)
  - Martin Luther King Day (Monday, January 16)
- John+'s schedule is changing. Friday is now his sermon preparation day, and Monday is his day off.

As always, please call ahead to schedule any in-person meetings with John+, David, or Catherine.

## Update Your Preferences

Please help us keep our database up to date by notifying the Parish Office if your contact information changes: 703-941-2922 or [stbarnabaschurch@outlook.com](mailto:stbarnabaschurch@outlook.com).



► **December 2022 Schedule of Participants – St. Barnabas’ Episcopal Church ◀**

If you cannot serve as assigned, please find a replacement and notify the Altar Guild Chair / Team Captain / Parish Office. Thank you.

Church Office: 703-941-2922 email: [stbarnabaschurch@outlook.com](mailto:stbarnabaschurch@outlook.com)

The 10:15 a.m. service will continue to be livestreamed each week. Please check your email or the parish website for the link.

DATE	ACOLYTE	READINGS	LECTOR	CHALICIST	USHER	10:15 AM COFFEE HOUR	OPENER / VESTRY-CLOSER
<b>December 4</b> 2 Advent 8:00 am 10:15 am	TBD TBD	Isaiah 11:1-10 Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19 Romans 15:4-13	B Macfarlane G Sinclair D Schaefer	M Macfarlane M Dugger	W Williams A Hamerschlag	Peyton	Vestry: Schaefer Opener: Newling <i>No flowers during Advent</i>
<b>December 11</b> 3 Advent 8:00 am 10:15 am	TBD TBD	Isaiah 35:1-10 Canticle 15 James 5:7-10	C McLaughlin K Stark D Wright	C McLaughlin G Sinclair	TBD K Mittelholtz	Newling, Harper	Vestry: Stark Opener: Patterson
<b>December 18</b> 4 Advent 8:00 am 10:15 am	TBD TBD	Isaiah 7:10-16 Psalm 80:1-7, 16-18 Romans 1:1-7	L Mellon B Harper C Mittelholtz	M Patterson C McLaughlin	TBD L Stark	Bottlick	Vestry: Ayala Opener: Newling
<b>December 24</b> Christmas Eve 4:30 pm prelude; 5 pm service 9 pm Zoom Compline	TBD TBD	Isaiah 9:2-7 Psalm 96 Titus 2:11-14	L Harris G Sinclair	G Sinclair E Riddle	C Tamahana	No Coffee Hour	Vestry: TBD Opener: Newling
<b>December 25</b> Christmas Day 10:15 am (one service only; No 8 am today) Lessons & Carols	TBD TBD	Isaiah 52:7-10 Psalm 98 Hebrews 1:1-4, (5-12)	B Macfarlane	M Patterson	R Erskine	No Coffee Hour	Vestry: Batten Opener: Patterson
<b>January 1</b> 8:00 am – Feast of the Holy Name 10:15 am – Lessons & Carols	TBD TBD	8:00 am Numbers 6:22-27 Psalm 8 Galatians 4:4-7	M Patterson Ellen R Michael D TBD	C McLaughlin M Dugger	W Williams T Greer	No Coffee Hour	Vestry: Friend Opener: Patterson

**Counter Schedule**

DATE	TEAM
Dec 4	1 Patterson, Ayala, Ricketts
Dec 11	2 Crutchley, Newling, Riddle
Dec 18	3 K Mittelholtz, Stark, TBD
Dec 25	4 Harper, C Mittelholtz, Friend
Jan 1	5 Batten, Dugger, Schaefer

**Altar Guild Schedule**

DATES	CAPTAIN
Dec 3-9	Leatherwood Ayala, Friend
Dec 10-16	TBD
Dec 17-23	TBD
Dec 24-30	TBD
Dec 31-Jan 6	TBD

**► January 2023 Schedule of Participants – St. Barnabas' Episcopal Church ◀**

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**The 10:15 a.m. service will continue to be livestreamed each week. Please check your email or the parish website for the link.**

DATE	ACOLYTE	READINGS	LECTOR	CHALICIST	USHER	10:15 AM COFFEE HOUR	OPENER / VESTRY-CLOSER
January 1 8:00 am 10:15 am – Lessons & Carols	TBD TBD	8:00 am Numbers 6:22-27 Psalm 8 Galatians 4:4-7	M Patterson Lessons & Carols	C McLaughlin M Dugger	W Williams T Greer	No Coffee Hour	Vestry: Friend Opener: Patterson
January 8 1 Epiphany 8:00 am 10:15 am – Pageant	TBD TBD	8:00 am Isaiah 42:1-9 Psalm 29 Acts 10:34-43	C Camp Pageant	M Patterson E Riddle	TBD A Hammerschlag	Greer	Vestry: Harper Opener: Newling Flower Guild: Radway Flower Delivery: Agnew
January 15 2 Epiphany 8:00 am 10:15 am	TBD TBD	Isaiah 49:1-7 Psalm 40:1-12 1 Corinthians 1:1-9	L Mellon C Mittelholz B Harper	C McLaughlin TBD	TBD K Mittelholz	Peyton	Vestry: Dugger Opener: Patterson Flower Guild: Wiseman Flower Delivery: Riddle
January 22 3 Epiphany 8:00 am 10:15 am	TBD TBD	Isaiah 9:1-4 Psalm 27:1, 5-13 1 Corinthians 1:10-18	B Macfarlane G Sinclair L Harris	M Patterson M Dugger	TBD L Stark	Mittelholz	Vestry: Ricketts Opener: Newling Flower Guild: Merchant Flower Delivery: Fortune
January 29 4 Epiphany 8:00 am 10:15 am – Rite 13	TBD TBD	Micah 6:1-8 Psalm 15 1 Corinthians 1:18-31	M Patterson M Dugger E Riddle	C McLaughlin G Sinclair	TBD C Tamanaha	Newling & Harper	Vestry: Riddle Opener: Ayala Flower Guild: Newling Flower Delivery: Dugger
February 5 5 Epiphany 8:00 am 10:15 am	TBD TBD	Isaiah 58:1-12 Psalm 112:1-10 1 Corinthians 2:1-16	C Camp D Wright D Schaefer	M Patterson E Riddle	W Williams R Erskine	TBD	Vestry: TBD: Opener: Newling Flower Guild: Radway Flower Delivery: Agnew

**Counter Schedule**

DATE	TEAM	
Jan 1	5	Batten, Dugger, Schaefer
Jan 8	1	Patterson, Ayala, Ricketts
Jan 15	2	Crutchley, Newling, Riddle
Jan 22	3	K Mittelholz, Stark, Hammerschlag
Jan 29	4	Harper, C Mittelholz, Friend

**Altar Guild Schedule**

DATES	CAPTAIN	
Dec 31-Jan 6	TBD	TBD
Jan 7-13	TBD	TBD
Jan 14-20	TBD	TBD
Jan 21-27	TBD	TBD
Jan 28-Feb 3	TBD	TBD

## November-December Sermon Series - Remaining Sundays

### *Three's Company: The Miracle of Showing Up*

#### December 4<sup>th</sup>

“A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse,  
and a branch shall grow out of his roots”

*Those times when God's abundant new life  
unexpectedly shows up*

#### December 11<sup>th</sup>

“Sorrow and sighing shall flee away”

*Preparing for the victory: trusting that, in the end,  
God will melt the clouds of sin and sadness*

#### December 18<sup>th</sup>

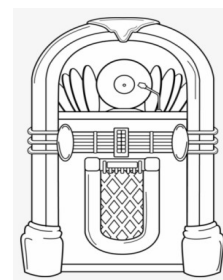
“An angel of the Lord appeared to him  
in a dream”

*Joseph beyond the technicolor dreamcoat  
(and Barnabas beyond the technicolor dreamcoat)*

*Dreaming new dreams*

## Men's Group

The Men's Group meets for a Men's Breakfast on the first Saturday of each month. The December date is December 3rd; the January date is January 7th. We meet at 8:00 a.m. at the Juke Box Diner, 7039 Columbia Pike, Annandale. All men of the parish and their guests are welcome to attend. For more information please contact the Parish Office.



## Six-month Grief Support Circle

Are you seeking healing after the heartache of losing someone close to you? Ever feel like others “don’t get it”? Or, perhaps you feel like the various other challenges of life have gotten in the way of being able to grieve a past loss right after it happened? Our modern society doesn’t always seem to understand bereavement and certainly doesn’t always provide the space needed for mourning.

Here is a great way to get support and a helping hand as you endure the journey we call grief.

*\* Please note: This circle of support is ONLY for those grieving and not a fit for those dealing with other issues. \**

**St. Barnabas’ Episcopal Church is partnering with Vitas Healthcare to offer this support group to those who grieve. A *Circle of Support* is provided to you via a Zoom or phone-in format. Our Group is open to ANYONE grieving and to caregivers for those who are terminally ill.**

Our Group is facilitated by a professional specializing in support for those who grieve. The group is free from “pushing” any particular agenda or perspective. Respect for each individual’s unique grief trek is paramount. Our group is *free*. You do not have to *sign up*. You can use Zoom or just call in.

HELD ON the Second Wednesday of the month, 7-8 PM from November ’22 thru April ’23  
via ZOOM.

Please contact the Parish Office for Zoom details.

What is expected of you? You only have to say, “Hello.”

We hope the space of this circle can support you in these extremely difficult times.

*Many thanks for Grace Jones Robbins making this partnership possible.  
John Bolin Shellito is also planning to be present with the group.*

## Cuba Mission

by Len LeRoy

Last month we provided funds for the purchase of a house in Palma Soriano that will provide a much better kitchen for the feeding ministry, a chapel near downtown, a parish office, a meeting room for counseling and groups such as AA, and, I'm sure, various community ministries that Noel+ will soon be discovering. So far this year, our assistance to Noel+ has helped at least 236 people in 83 families.

We at St. Barnabas' are having a huge impact on that community thanks to the generosity of members of St. Barnabas'. Noel+ has named the kitchen in the new building "Comedor San Bernabé," which roughly translates as the Saint Barnabas Diner. He feels deeply blessed by our help. For 2023 we are beginning to plan a mission trip to Cuba with the end of March as a likely date. There will be an announcement about that soon.



## Contribute to St. Barnabas' While You Shop for Christmas!

**Support  
Saint Barnabas  
Episcopal Church.**

When you shop at [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com),  
Amazon donates.

[Go to smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com)

**amazon**smile

Did you know you can contribute to St Barnabas' – at no cost to you – while you shop for Christmas?!

Before you go to Amazon, go to [www.st-barnabaschurch.org](https://www.st-barnabaschurch.org) (St Barnabas' website) and click on the Amazon Smile logo at the bottom of the home page (see image at left). Then shop as usual. A percentage of your order automatically will be donated to St Barnabas'. This is the easiest donation ever. So, bookmark St. Barnabas' website on your phone, laptop, or computer today!

## Thanks and More Thanks...

- For the WOSB, especially for helping our parish get into the festivities of the season with the Holiday Bazaar and for putting together an amazing event.
- For the members of the Barnabees craft group for the lovely wreaths, blankets, mice, and ornaments; for all who made cookies, cakes, jams, chutney, etc.; for the soup-makers; and for Hugh and all those who helped with the luncheon.
- For Hugh Agnew, Nancy MacLachlan, and Fiona Agnew and the countless hours they spent hanging lights, setting up trees, and in every way transforming the Richardson Room into a *Winter Wonderland*.
- For Dawn Schaefer's leadership of our Youth Committee as Chair—both powerful and generous.
- For Theresa Merchant's inspiring leadership in our Godly Play Classroom and with our Special Events.
- For Cindy McLaughlin's leadership with our Youth, and her excellence in organizing our Trunk 'n Treat.
- For Haley Bolin Shellito and her leadership of our Children's Chapel.
- For Dr. David Palmer and his gifted leadership in our midst.
- For the amazing musical inspiration of our Band.
- For Nancy MacLachlan generously filling in as our Organist.
- For our Choirs, and their dedication to rehearsing and preparing for worship.
- For all those who have shared their gift and passion for music with our congregation, whether with a solo or in another way.
- For all the students and teachers who helped make our Youth Sunday a success.
- For Randolph Jones and his Spirit-filled kindness in arranging for tutoring and other supports for the ASYP students
- For James Harris' care for our building, often behind the scenes.
- For Ken and Camille Mittelholtz and their leadership with Building & Grounds, ACCA, and in other areas.
- For George Sinclair, and his leadership with our Lectors and Chalicists.
- For our Stewardship Committee, and for Behn Ayala's leadership of that committee.
- For all our pledging givers, who so generously and consistently contribute to the life and well being of our parish.
- For our Finance Committee, and their prudence in managing our funds.
- For Maria Bottlick, and her excellence in helping us to keep track of where and how we are deploying our resources, in the service of the Kingdom.
- For those who gave, over and above their pledge, in order to allow San Juan Bautista to purchase a Parish House this fall.
- For Rev. Noel Santos generously naming the kitchen and dining room of the Parish House, the St. Barnabas' Diner, in thanksgiving for the generosity of St. Barnabasians.
- For Len LeRoy and our entire San Juan Bautista committee, in supporting our ongoing relationship with our sister Parish.

KIDS COLORING PAGE





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**Advent Forum: *The First Century of Christianity***

Sundays at 9:15 a.m.

*The World Jesus Enters* (November 27) ▪ *Christ Believers & the Church in Jerusalem* (December 4) ▪ *Missions & Early Churches* (December 11)  
*Meeting of Apostles & Paul's Mission* (December 28)

**The Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ: Christmas Eve**  
4:30 p.m. Choral Prelude ▪ 5:00 p.m. Festival Holy Eucharist

**9 p.m. Christmas Eve Compline on Zoom**

**The Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ: Christmas Day**  
10:15 a.m. (*one service only*)

**Lessons & Carols**

Sunday, January 1, 2023 at 10:15 a.m.

**Epiphany Pageant**

Sunday, January 8, 2023 at 10:15 a.m.