

The St. Barnabas' Reporter



A Cause for Celebration - August 27th

Dear St. Barnabasians,

I remember one lay leader at the church mentioning that there is a silver lining to COVID, in that it has given me a little bit more time than otherwise to get to know the St. Barnabas congregation. And, while I was initially taken aback at the thought that anything good could come out of the whiplash of conflicting information and haphazard public health responses that encouraged us all to be less social and more sedentary, I've since realized that she had a good point. The slow process of regathering has allowed me to gradually understand the broader life and longer history of St. Barnabas' Church here in Annandale in a way that I wouldn't have been able to do if I had simply jumped into the established flow of congregational worship at a more "ordinary" time. And, it also feels appropriate that, as we are now in what is known liturgically as "Ordinary Time"—the long season of green liturgical colors after Pentecost—we would finally, at long last, begin to make preparations for a Celebration of New Ministry on August 27th, to celebrate the strength of St. Barnabas' and to dream together about what God might be up to in this next chapter of St. Barnabas' congregational life.

From my perspective, our calling to serve together doesn't mean that everything is going to be perfect. It doesn't mean we won't be annoyed at one another at times. It doesn't mean that everything will always make sense all the time. But it does mean that we have valuable wisdom and powerful ministry to share together.

So, as I give thanks for the new ministry that we are undertaking together, as individuals who share in the Baptized life that brought us into the Body of Christ and who are empowered by the wisdom and inspiration of the Holy Spirit in this place, I'm mindful of some of my own memories of the three years we have already shared together. I hope you'll share some of your own memories as well, as our Celebration of New Ministry on August 27th approaches.

I remember signing the Letter of Agreement precisely one day before everything shut down.

I remember the intensity of our Bible Study and Education for Ministry discussions on Zoom.

I remember Haley's apt remark (as I was recording myself alone in the

(continued next page)

The Rev. John Bolin Shellito
Rector

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

- *Orchid Workshop*
- *Summer Wednesday Worship*
- *PLADaTeS*
- *20s/30s Group*
- *Stewardship 2024*
- *EfM: Planning for Fall*
- *St. Barnabas Day Photos*
- *Rebuilding Together Photos*
- *WOSB Mad Hatter's Tea*
- *New Artwork: Kathleen Stark*

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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
2023 ASYP Tutor Coordinator

Vestry & Parish Officers

Ellen Riddle
Senior Warden

Larry Stark
Mark Patterson
Co-Junior Wardens

PJ Kennedy
Treasurer

John Westerlund
Assistant Treasurer

Ann Sayles
Register

Sam Batten

Michael Dugger

Beth Harper

Leigh Kennedy

Norma Ricketts

Jeff Schaefer

—
Catherine Dubas
Newsletter Editor

**Sunday
Worship Schedule**

8 a.m. Holy Eucharist

10:15 a.m. Holy Eucharist

A Cause for Celebration (continued from p. 1)

sanctuary) that we never anticipated that I would end up being a “televangelist.”

I remember St. Barnabas running a low-power FM radio in order to have some of our first outdoor church services in the parking lot.

I remember the elaborate tables and cones we set up to keep our FACETS feeding ministry members safe.

I remember our Hypothermia Shelter adaptations: first at the shelter and subsequently at St. Patrick’s.

I remember Catherine, James, and I opening up the church Nave for individual worship in shifts during Holy Week of 2021.

I remember our first shared Eucharist in person, outdoors on Easter Sunday, 2021.

I remember our hybrid Bishop’s Visitation in February of 2022, on the same weekend as our Ski Trip.

I remember the generosity of our Godly Play and Sunday School classes in leading our November Youth Sundays.

I remember St. Barnabas’ welcoming David Palmer as our Music Minister in the spring of 2022, with the joyful resumption of our choirs.

I remember noticing my son carefully attaching his nametag to his shirt before 10:15 a.m. worship this past spring.

I remember the bravery of our Cherub Choir, singing in front of the whole church this past Trinity Sunday.

I remember the amazing singing and musicality of our Youth Choir this most recent St. Barnabas’ Day (among many other occasions).

I remember our congregational celebration and remembrance of the historical marker Phyllis McKoy established in memory of her brother, Michael.

I remember the inspiring faith shared by the St. Barnabas AA group in their anniversary celebration.

I remember my own thankfulness when the Rev. Linda Wofford Hawkins shared that she would put our Celebration of New Ministry on her calendar, and plan to be here.

I remember my awe at the legacy of all those who have been a significant part of the life of St. Barnabas’ in years past, including the Rev. Bob Lyles, Ken Sheelor, and the others whose ashes are now at rest in our Memorial Garden.

The past three years have been just packed. The fact that Jesus did all of his public ministry in just three short years is further reinforcement to me that I am definitely not Jesus Christ. But the Risen Savior is in our midst, doing a new thing in our midst, because every new day brings a new combination of St. Barnabasians who gather for worship and service. And our work is both ongoing and ever new, because Christ is continually drawing on our own individual experiences and gifts in order to do a new thing in our midst, for a new era. And that is a cause for celebration.

Gratefully,
John+

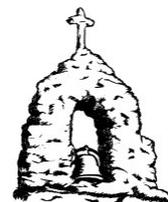
A Note from David Palmer

by David Palmer, Music Minister

“Music is the universal language,” goes the platitude. “No, it’s not,” says the recalcitrant Music Minister. In my opinion, music can be like *languages*, but there is no single music style that communicates to everyone. I just read a review of a book called *The Philosophy and Aesthetics of Music* by Edward Lippman, in which the reviewer credits Arthur Schopenhauer with the platitude but points out how Schopenhauer’s view was culturally limited, if not narrow. If culture is the distinctive customs, values, beliefs, knowledge, art, and language of a society or a community, it seems that cultures differ in significant ways that make it hard for us to understand each other’s music. There are some musical universals such as singing in octaves when men sing with women or children, but, by the time a succession of notes is given rhythm, meter, form, etc. in the realization of a melody, the result might not sound like what one expects a melody should be. Simply put, melody and music in general is culturally bound: the popular music of one culture may sound terrible to people of another. Many westerners do not like certain melodies from other cultures, saying that they sound out of tune, incomprehensible, or overly repetitious. The criticism goes both ways, and we find ourselves living out a musical application of the story of Babel in which the language of the human race is confused so that – the Lord says – “they will not understand each other.” So, we are left in a state of mutual incomprehension. Or are we?

By the time you read this, the Youth Choir will have recently sung an anthem by Israel Houghton whose lyrics present the idea that the worshippers of God include “people from every nation and tongue from generation to generation.” This idea is not an idle speculation by Israel; it comes from the book of Revelation, in which St. John describes his vision of heaven: “a great multitude that no one could number, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb.” The way I see this, everyone is speaking their own language, but they are somehow united in one expression; no one has to learn Latin or English or Esperanto to cry “out with a loud voice, ‘Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne.’” There are no cultural prerequisites in heaven, and there should not be any in God’s realm on earth.

So, as members of God’s realm in Northern Virginia, how do we St. Barnabasians live out this multicultural vision of beloved community? In my opinion, every time we learn someone else’s language – musical or otherwise – we are undoing the effects of Babel. I am grateful that the St. Barnabas community has a broad repertoire of worship music and is open to trying new things. Since there is no universal musical language, we can be sensitive to those for whom our Episcopal culture is not native. Rather than insisting that everyone who darkens our doors learn a specific musical language, we can offer an array of languages and keep learning new ones. In so doing, we are building bridges, leading to greater understanding, greater appreciation, and greater love. Doesn’t that sound like a vision we can all get behind?



Save the Dates

**Parish Retreat
at
Shrine Mont
Retreat and
Conference
Center**

September 29

-

October 1

Save the dates of Friday, September 29 through Sunday, October 1 for our annual Parish Retreat, held at Shrine Mont in Orkney Springs.

A registration form is included in this newsletter. There are activities for all ages, including worship, fellowship, learning, exploring, music, and a bonfire!

For questions, please contact Ann Sayles or the Parish Office.



July

Jay Carroll
 Randy Jones
 Deborah Batten
 Laura Westerlund
 Nora Verstandig
 John Westerlund
 David Palmer
 Genevieve Phillips
 Matthew Dugger
 Francine Conteh
 Maria Anderson

August

Lita Mellon
 Cat Shellito
 Alex Bottlick
 Gil Baldwin
 Jackson Miller
 Sophie Lilienthal
 Cricket Camp
 Lulu Harris
 Johanna Carroll

*Look with favor, we
 pray, on your servants as
 they begin another year.
 Grant that they may grow
 in wisdom and grace,
 and strengthen their trust
 in your goodness all the
 days of their lives;
 through Jesus Christ
 our Lord. Amen.*

BCP p. 830

Orchid Workshop - Sunday, July 9th How to Grow and Repot Orchids at Home

For those who already have an orchid or two, and for those are just curious about them, Mark Patterson will be giving a presentation on growing and repotting orchids following the 10:15 a.m. service on Sunday, July 9th. This event is intended for beginners and novices, as well as for those who are just curious. Information will be provided on growing orchids at home, and there will be a demonstration on how to repot them, as well. All are welcome, so if you have a friend, bring them along. No sign up is necessary, just come if you are interested. - Mark Patterson

Summer Wednesday Worship

All are invited for a mid-week service of Morning Prayer on Wednesdays through August at 10:00 a.m. in the Library. Worship on July 19 and August 2 will be Holy Eucharist with Healing. The other services are Morning Prayer, and often feature the lectionary for saints of the Church.

St. Barnabas' PIAyDaTeS

Join other families with young children at St. Barnabas' for monthly-ish meetups at playgrounds, parks, kids' concerts--you name it. Activities are targeted at preschool and early elementary aged kids, but all ages are welcome. To get involved, contact Haley Bolin Shellito or the Parish Office.

St. Barnabas' 20s/30s Group

If you are in your 20s or 30s (in mind, body, or spirit!) and are interested in getting together for an occasional brunch, happy hour, or other event with the St. Barnabas' community, contact Haley Bolin Shellito or the Parish Office to be added to the 20s/30s email distribution list.

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

Stewardship Campaign for 2024: *Rooted in Abundance*

July 2023

Dear St. Barnabas',

Our Stewardship Campaign for 2024 giving is "Rooted in Abundance," which is grounded in the following scripture:

They shall be like a tree planted by water, sending out its roots by the stream. It shall not fear when heat comes, and its leaves shall stay green; in the year of drought it is not anxious, and it does not cease to bear fruit. Jeremiah 17:8

It's a reminder to us that we are inspired to give because so much has been given to us. This is not transactional—we do not give in proportion to how we have benefitted or suffered—rather we give because of the love we have experienced in the story of our faith. We have explored trees, roots, flowers all as metaphors for the way we dig deep into what nourishes us to transform that goodness into work, service, and joy in a world that needs us.

In October, we'll be mailing out pledge cards. Please prayerfully consider how you can best contribute. We'll also be hosting "Stewardship Ministry Minutes" in October and November to inspire you further.

Thank you ahead of time for your prayers and generosity!

Faithfully,

The Stewardship Committee

Behn Ayala (Chair); Grace Robbins (Co-Chair); Maria Bottlick, Cricket Camp, Maria Macfarlane and Ellen Riddle

Education for Ministry (EfM): Planning for Fall

by Beth Harper

We have an active and engaged EfM seminar group at St. Barnabas'! The group meets weekly on Tuesday evenings from 7 to 9 p.m. on Zoom. The EfM year runs from September to June, with breaks for Thanksgiving and Christmas. We look forward to welcoming new members in September. If you are interested in joining us or would just like more information, contact Beth Harper or the Parish Office. We need to finalize the list of participants by August 1.

Based out of the Beeken School of Theology at the University of the South (Sewanee, TN), EfM is a unique four-year program in theological education based on small-group study and practice. Since its founding in 1975, more than 120,000 people have taken part in this international program. EfM helps the faithful encounter the breadth and depth of the Christian tradition and bring it into conversation with their experiences of the world as they study, worship, and engage in theological reflection together.

The four-year curriculum includes the Hebrew Bible, the New Testament, the history of the Christian church, and issues in contemporary theology. Group members register one year at a time; the cost is \$325 and includes print and electronic copies of the *Reading and Reflection Guide*. Participants purchase their own Bible and textbooks. Financial assistance is available; contact the Rector.

In the Presence of God

We pray for God's strength and healing for ... Behn Ayala, Bernard Blair, Jean Anne Braddon, Charles Camp, Cricket Camp, Margot Donnelly, Rotha Frye, Preston George, Joan Gibbs, Lee Gibbs, James Harris, Roger Hefferan, Gertrude Jones, Sharon Jones, Alusine Kanu, Joy Lyles, Tom Lyles, Bob Macfarlane, Maria Macfarlane, Cindy McLaughlin, Helen Mosher, Shirley Newman, Eileen Parlow, Beth Phillips, Grace Rampersaud, Norma Ricketts, Barbara Rigden, Ann Sayles, 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; our Diocesan Bishop, the Rt. Rev. E. Mark Stevenson; our Assistant Bishop, the Rt. Rev. Gayle Elizabeth Harris; 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 our sister parish of San Juan Bautista in Palma Soriano, Cuba.



Men's Group

The Men's Group meets for breakfast on the first Saturday of each month. We will meet on July 1st and August 5th at 8:00 a.m. at the Juke Box Diner, located at 7039 Columbia Pike, Annandale. All men of the parish and their guests are welcome to attend. For more information please contact the Parish Office.

Reporter Deadline, Office Hours, and Schedule

The deadline for the September 2023 issue of *The St. Barnabas' Reporter* is **Tuesday, August 15**. Please submit announcements and/or photos to the Parish Office at 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 Office is closed on Fridays in July and August.

Of note:

- The Parish Office will be closed on Tuesday, July 4th in observance of Independence Day.

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 or if you would like any changes to how you receive parish communications. You can call the office at 703-941-2922 or email stbarnabaschurch@outlook.com.

Parish Life

St. Barnabas Day ▪ June 11, 2023



Rebuilding Together ▪ April 29, 2023



Annandale Christian Community for Action (ACCA)



Furniture Ministry – St. Barnabas' is scheduled to provide a crew to serve on Saturday morning July 8 to deliver furniture to needy households and pick up donated furniture. Volunteers report at 8 a.m. to the warehouse on the grounds of Annandale United Methodist Church, 6935 Columbia Pike, Annandale VA.

Rebuilding Together – Thanks to John Shellito, Behn Ayala, Scott and Elsa Cannon, Dave Wright and Ken and Camille Mittelholtz for volunteering for the Rebuilding Together National Rebuilding Day in April. St. Barnabas' worked with Annandale United Methodist volunteers to complete yard construction and repairs for a group home. Our house was one of two repaired by ACCA. In addition to the larger projects, Rebuilding Together-Arlington/Fairfax/Falls Church completes smaller safety repair projects year-round. If you know a homeowner of limited means who needs help with home repairs and safety improvements, contact Ken or Camille to learn how the homeowner can apply for help.

Family Emergency Assistance and Food Pantry – ACCA helped 30 households in May with urgently needed payment of rent, utilities or medical expenses. The ACCA Pantry provides 7-10 days of food and hygiene supplies to families who urgently need help. The pantry assisted 120 households in May. Thanks to everyone who donated food in recent months – donations can be left in the basket in the narthex. Volunteer drivers are needed to deliver food.

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

Heritage Mission Center (Food Site)

The Annandale United Methodist Church Heritage Mission Center continues to serve over 300 families per week with basic groceries. To donate food to this effort, please leave items in the basket in the narthex. The Mission Center appreciates donations from St. Barnabas.'

The Mission Center also provides English as a Second Language classes for its clients, and is seeking volunteer assistant instructors.

The Mission Center will soon be opening The Janet Petty Sabo Wellness Clinic at the Mission Center to provide wellness and dental help for uninsured families. The Center received a grant from the Robert I Schattner Foundation for the new services.

For more information on the AUMC Mission Center, please contact Camille Mittelholtz.

Women of St. Barnabas' Mad Hatter's Tea - May 13, 2023

by Camille Mittelholtz

Women of St. Barnabas' members, families and friends all enjoyed the WOSB Mad Hatter's tea on May 13. Attendees feasted on the sandwiches and desserts. George Sinclair and Ken Mittelholtz judged the hat contest. Maria Bottlick won the drawing for the tea basket assembled by Mary Yeaman. The tea and raffle, together with a very generous donation, raised a total of \$1,220.00. The funds will be used for outreach to charities WOSB supports and inreach to the Rector's Discretionary Fund and other St. Barnabas' programs.

Clockwise from top left:

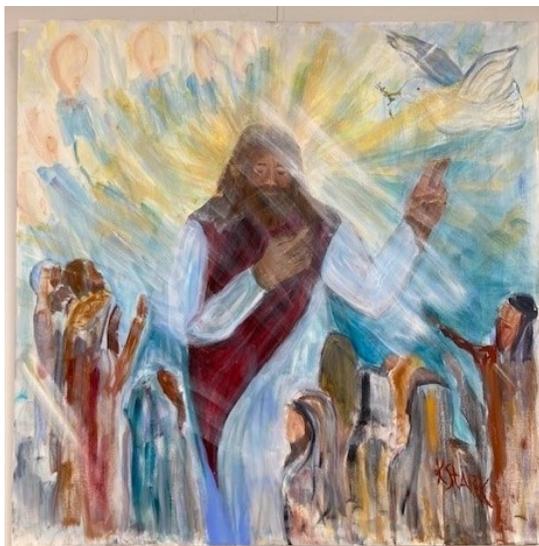
Hat prize winners: Janet George, Haley Bolin Shellito, Ellen Riddle

Nancy Peyton

Tea basket winner: Maria Bottlick

Marcel Lisi, Beth Harper, Behn Ayala, and Barbara Miller

Molly Newling and guests



New Artwork at St. Barnabas'

The Ascension of Jesus is part of my series on the life of Jesus. This painting shows Jesus blessing his Apostles and ascending to the Father. (Luke 24:46-53) The Holy Spirit is in the corner waiting to come to the Apostles. (Acts 2:1-4)

I was thinking about Jesus' ascension and his last words to his followers, "And behold, I am sending the promise of My Father upon you." (Luke 24:49) It seemed to be a wonderful subject for the last painting in this series.

- Kathleen Stark

The Ascension of Jesus,
Acrylic on canvas

Thanks and More Thanks...

- For the Altar Guild.
- For the Flower Guild and all those who deliver flowers.
- For the Vestry.
- For our fearless Senior Warden, Ellen Riddle.
- For our indefatigable Junior Wardens, Mark Patterson and Larry Stark.
- For Jessica and Andy and Ellen Riddle's leadership with our Youth Group and livestreams.
- For all those who have helped with our church communications, including Ellen Riddle, Haley Bolin Shellito, Helen Mosher, Jeff Schaefer, Jocelyn Leatherwood, and others.
- For our Building & Grounds Committee.
- For all who assisted with our Parish Workdays.
- For all who have generously hosted Coffee Hour.
- For all who have contributed to our mission, ministry, and fellowship in other ways.
- For Janet & Preston George generously hosting TGIF among their amazing azaleas.
- For all those who brought food to TGIF and contributed to our shared fellowship in those gatherings.
- For our Finance Committee.
- For our Stewardship Committee.
- For all those who helped the Barnabas AA Group celebrate 51 years in our building.
- For James' excellent caretaking of St. Barnabas' space.
- For Xochi's success in graduating high school and for her service as an Acolyte and as a violinist.
- For Jacob's generosity in service, assisting with the St. Barnabas' Youth Group.
- For all the St. Barnabas' Sunday School teachers: for their dedication and faithfulness, which has made such a powerful difference in the lives of St. Barnabas' families.
- For the Rev. James Hughes and his generous offer to teach biblical Hebrew and Greek classes.
- For the Bible Study.
- For the Playdates Group.
- For the 20s and 30s Group.
- For David Palmer's gifted musicality and his dedication to practice and creativity.
- For the Adult Choir's gifted musicality and their dedication to practice and creativity.
- For the Youth Choir's gifted musicality and their dedication to practice and creativity.
- For the Cherub Choir, and the commitment of the Cherub Choir families, to learning.
- For Randy Jones's generous commitment to the ASYP kids' learning.

KIDS COLORING PAGE





ST. BARNABAS'
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

4801 Ravensworth Road
Annandale, VA 22003

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We're on the Web!

www.st-barnabaschurch.org

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St. Barnabas' Celebration of New Ministry

Sunday, August 27th at 4:00 p.m.

❖ ❖ ❖ ❖

St. Barnabas' Ministry Fair

Sunday, September 10th following 10:15 a.m. Worship

❖ ❖ ❖ ❖

**Blessing of the Backpacks, with Beginning of Choirs
and 9:15 a.m. Christian Formation for our Program Year**

Sunday, September 17th

❖ ❖ ❖ ❖

Parish Shrine Mont Retreat ▪ September 29 - October 1

Please register by July 31 if at all possible—