

February 2016

The St. Barnabas' Reporter



The Clergy Page

The Rev. Linda Wofford Hawkins, Rector



Arise, shine for your light has come. Here is the message of Epiphany, the good news that is ours to share with the world. We have seen the face of Christ, the Light of the World. That light is life changing for us and for the world.

Yet the season of Epiphany is especially short this year. Ash Wednesday ushers in Lent on February 10, taking us into the wilderness all too soon. Life is like that. The dark days in the desert are never far away. So we learn as Christians to embrace the light even as we walk through the desert of darkness and the unknown.

Our vestry has begun the year with a retreat where light was shining even in the darkness. The group shared poignant stories of God's presence in the life of St. Barnabas' past and present. There was an honoring of the past leadership and a deep sense of the significance of the mantle of leadership that they carry.

Even as the group has begun the year with an extreme budgetary challenge, it was clear that dollars do not tell the whole story of the life of God's people in this place. At the same time, there was a commitment to address the reality that the health of our giving must improve to sustain a gathered people whose ministry and life together involve bills and salaries.

Our vestry articulated commitments--not the usual goals that may or may not be met in the coming year. Now it is time for the rest of us to join in with commitments in support of our mission to share the light of Christ. One vestry commitment is to engage our children and youth in a broader range of our worship and outreach activities.

Upon reflection, I am confident that this will happen--in part because the youngest among us have not yet learned to say "No." They are filled with the presence of Christ and have not developed a default response of assuming they lack the time or gifts to meet new challenges and opportunities. They can let the Holy Spirit move and surprise us.

I have declared this Year of the Gospel of Luke to be the Year of the Holy Spirit at St. Barnabas.' May we trust the Holy Spirit to guide us through both the joy of the light and the challenges of darkness. May we relish this Epiphany in its brevity that we may be ready to embrace the growth and depth that await us in the wilderness of Lent. May we share our journeys that our journey may make us one in Christ.

In Christ's love,
Linda+

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

- *Ash Wednesday Service Schedule*
- *Dean's Cross Award*
- *Newcomers Luncheon*
- *Staff Surgeries*
- *The Barnabees*
- *Annual Ski Trip*
- *2016 Newsletter Schedule*
- *Through the African American Lens Exhibit*

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**St. Barnabas'
Episcopal Church**

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

Parish Staff

The Rev. Linda Wofford
Hawkins, *Rector*

Mr. David K. Snyder
Minister of Music

Ms. Catherine Dubas
Parish Administrator

Ms. Cindy McLaughlin
Acting Sexton (volunteer)

**Vestry and
Parish Officers**

Patrick (PJ) Kennedy
Senior Warden

John Westerlund
Junior Warden

Sudhir Frederick
Treasurer

Molly Newling
Register

Ann Sayles
Recording Secretary

Sanjiv Augustine

Rotha Frye

Carolyn Lilienthal

Cindy McLaughlin

Camille Mittelholtz

Scott Moser

Mark Patterson

Harvey Sawatis

Jocelyn Leatherwood
Newsletter Editor

Schedule of Services

Sundays

8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist
9:15 a.m. Christian
Formation for All Ages
10:15 a.m. Holy Eucharist
& Children's Chapel
(Nursery available
at 9:15 a.m.)

Wednesday Morning

10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist
(with Healing Service on
the first Wednesday
of each month)

For parishioners both new and long-term, this page* is included in each issue of the Reporter to help plan personal calendars to include vital parish functions.

Every week in the life...

SUNDAYS:

8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist
9:15 a.m. Christian For-
mation (all ages) and Adult
Choir rehearsal
10:15 a.m. Holy Eucharist
& Children's Chapel
(nursery available)
Children's Choir following
service

WEDNESDAYS:

10 a.m. Holy Eucharist
w/Bible Study includes
Healing on the first Wed.
of each month
7:30 p.m. Adult Choir re-
hearsal

Every month in the life...

**1ST SUNDAY OF THE
MONTH: FACETS 4-6 p.m.**

**1ST TUESDAY OF THE
MONTH: WOSB 10 a.m.**
(Sept.—May)

**1ST SATURDAY OF THE
MONTH: Men's Breakfast,**
8 a.m., Juke Box Diner

**2ND MONDAY OF THE
MONTH: Finance Commit-**
tee, 7 p.m.

**2ND TUESDAY OF THE
MONTH: Buildings &
Grounds Committee, 7 p.m.**

**3RD SUNDAY OF THE
MONTH: Stewardship after
church**

**3RD THURSDAY OF THE
MONTH: Vestry meeting ,**
7 p.m.

This year in the life...

JANUARY 2016

3—Epiphany Pageant and
Installation of Vestry &
WOSB
16—Vestry Retreat &
WOSB New Year's Brunch
18—MLK, Jr. Day
21-23—Diocesan Council
31—Bishop's Visitation

FEBRUARY 2016

6—Mardi Gras Party
9—Shrove Tuesday/
Pancake Supper
10—Ash Wednesday/Lent
begins
12-15—Annual Ski
Trip/Presidents' Day
weekend

MARCH 2016

20—Palm Sunday/start of
Holy Week
24—Maundy Thursday
25—Good Friday
26—Holy Saturday/Easter
Vigil
27—Easter Sunday

APRIL 2016

17—Hammered Dulcimer
& Harp Guitar Concert
30—Rebuilding Together

MAY 2016

7—Mad Hatter's Tea Party
8—Mothers Day
15—Pentecost

22—Trinity Sunday
30—Memorial Day

JUNE 2016

12—Saint Barnabas' Day
(parish celebration)
19—Fathers Day

JULY 2016

4—Independence Day
TBA—Vacation Bible
School

SEPTEMBER 2016

5—Labor Day
TBA—Blessing of the
Animals
30-Oct. 2—Shrine Mont
Parish Retreat

OCTOBER 2016

10—Columbus Day
TBA—ACCA CROP Walk
TBA—Trunk 'n' Treat
31—Halloween

NOVEMBER 2016

1—All Saints' Day
6—All Saints' Sunday
20—Annual Meeting/
Vestry Election
24—Thanksgiving
27—Advent begins

DECEMBER 2016

TBA—Fun at Christmas
TBA—Parish-wide
Caroling
TBA—Blue Christmas
Service
TBA—Greening of the
Church
24—Christmas Eve
25—Christmas Day

*Schedule is not all-inclusive and subject to change. Check the most recent Sunday bulletin or weekly email for the latest information.



The Adult Forum is held Sundays from 9:15 to 10:00 a.m. in the Richardson Room. This year’s Adult Forum explores the Baptismal Covenant and the promises we make in the Rite of Holy Baptism.

FEBRUARY 7 - MENTAL HEALTH

Following our promise in the Baptismal Covenant to “persevere in resisting evil,” we will have a talk about Mental Health. The Rev. Cynthia Rogers of Northern Virginia Mental Health Institute will be our speaker.

Adult Forum Lenten Series

and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?

The words of the Baptismal Covenant point to our need for transformation of repentance, change. We hope to push beyond an individual response to look at what our response to sin and turning to the Lord would be on a societal level. How do we bring about change?

FEBRUARY 14 - REPENTANCE REQUIRES THAT WE CHANGE

David Ackert, son of parishioner Stephen Ackert, will discuss change management.

FEBRUARY 21 - ON A SOCIETAL LEVEL, HOW DO WE TURN TO THE LORD?

Using an historical perspective, we will look at moments in our history of *turning to the Lord* on a societal level.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 27 - NATIONAL MUSEUM OF AMERICAN HISTORY VISIT

We will visit to the National Museum of American History to see the exhibit, *Through the African American Lens*, and related exhibits in the museum.

FEBRUARY 28 - DISCUSSION OF OUR TRIP TO THE NATIONAL MUSEUM OF AMERICAN HISTORY (FEB. 27)

We will discuss the African American Experience as it has been shaped by religion.

MARCH 6 - THE WAY OF THE CROSS

Stephen Ackert will present a session on the Way of the Cross, including the representation of the stations found in African American Catholic churches.

MARCH 13 - THE LITURGIES OF HOLY WEEK

Ed Ing will present a look at the liturgies of Holy Week and the call to transformation of repentance found there.

MARCH 20 - PALM SUNDAY - NO FORUM

Sunday, January 31,
10:15 a.m.
Visitation of The Right
Reverend Susan E.
Goff, Bishop Suffragan
of Virginia
(joint service)

Please speak with the Rector if you are interested in participating in the Inquirers Class to prepare for confirmation, reception, or simply a refresher course in Christian faith.

Ash Wednesday
February 10
 Holy Eucharist
 and
 Imposition of Ashes
 10:00 a.m.
 7:30 p.m.

LUNCH FELLOWSHIP

Newcomers Luncheon

Sunday, February 21

following the 10:15

service

Invitations coming soon



NEXT BAPTISM DATES

February 7 (Last Sunday
After Epiphany)

-

March 26 - 7:30 p.m.
(Great Vigil of Easter)

FCPD Needs Your Help

The Fairfax County Police Department and the anti-human trafficking programs need your help. The human trafficking unit was dissolved on January 11, 2016, and Det. Bill Woolf, formerly the only detective in the human trafficking division, was transferred into the major crimes department, working on crimes against children. All his regular work will go on, and all new calls will be transferred to him. Unfortunately, there is no funding available to provide him with help. Typically, a detective investigating such crimes would only have 3 or 4 cases at a time, according to national standards. Det. Woolf has over 40 cases normally. He recently had one file that had over 70 victims. That took time and attention away from everything else.

Contact your Fairfax County District Supervisor, or all the Fairfax County District Supervisors. Express your concern about this issue. Request they fund a dedicated police task group to fight this horrible crime against men and women, boys and girls in Fairfax County. Let them know our women and children ARE NOT FOR SALE!

Follow this link to find contact information for each of the district supervisors: <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/government/board/> including: Penny Gross, Providence district - 703-256-7717; John Cook, Braddock district - 703-425-8300; and Pat Herrity, Springfield district - 703-451-3047.

Women of St. Barnabas' (WOSB) Outreach

The WOSB are happy to report that in the year 2015 our outreach/inreach budget was \$8,496. By hard work and with the incredible aid of our fellow church members we have been able to help the poor and needy which as Christians we are called to do. Thank you!

Our contributions have ranged from helping our own church with the Worship Space Renewal fund to the Christian Appalachian Project which helps with the Head Start program in Appalachia. Our biggest recipients have been ACCA, FACETS, Alternative House, and the Rector's Discretionary Fund.

Now, on to our next fund raising venture. We are again sponsoring our popular Mardi Gras on Saturday, February 6. Please see the flyer for more information.

The WOSB held a New Year's Brunch in place of our usual January meeting. We enjoyed fellowship and good food. There was a brief financial report on our Christmas bazaar and our outreach budget. We earned \$4,319 from our bazaar.

Our next meeting will be Tuesday, February 2, 2016, in the Richardson Room at 10 a.m. This meeting will be the official start of our new year. We will make plans for Mardi Gras and discuss the coming year. We of course invite all women of the church to attend. We ask you to help us with our good works. Come join us.

VTS Honors Robert Frye with Dean's Cross Award

The Very Rev. Ian S. Markham, Ph.D., dean and president of Virginia Theological Seminary, and the Rt. Rev. James Shand, chairman of the board of directors at VTS, awarded our own St. Barnabas' parishioner, Robert (Bob) Frye with the Dean's Cross for Servant Leadership during the Service of Advent Lessons & Carols at Virginia Theological Seminary's Immanuel Chapel on December 6, 2015.

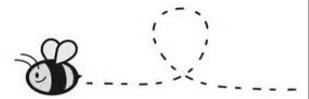
Bob, a former Chairman of the Fairfax County School Board, was recognized for his leadership and direction for almost 20 years to the Fairfax County public school system. As an at-large Board Member, he played a key role in shaping what has been recognized as one of the best large school districts in the country.

The 2015 Dean's Cross was also awarded to former First Lady Barbara Bush (in absentia) and Mr. Stanley B. Hubbard, Jr., who serves as ninth president and chief executive officer of Kanuga Conferences, Inc.

Established in 2008, the Dean's Cross for Servant Leadership in Church and Society recognizes outstanding leaders who embody their baptismal vows to "strive for justice and peace among all people and respect the dignity of every human being." Selected annually by VTS' dean in consultation with the chair of the Board of Trustees, the honorees receive a handmade silver cross, modeled after the seminary chapel cross, and a certificate.



Bob Frye (center) and his wife Rotha are pictured with family and members of St. Barnabas' who attended the service.



THE BARNABEES

The Barnabees are the craft arm of the WOSB. We meet on Thursdays and will announce when we will start. The Barnabees' main event is the Christmas bazaar, our big money maker. It is a fun group, and we are greatly in need of new and younger members. You don't have to be crafty—just show up with willing hands. Of course, if you have some craft ideas for Christmas, please come share them.

33RD ANNUAL ST. BARNABAS' SKI TRIP FEBRUARY 12-15,



2016

See sign-up sheet in the Richardson Room. For more information contact Keith Peyton, 703-941-5633.

SHRINE MONT MUSIC
CAMP



The camping season will be upon us in a few short months. Last year, St. Barnabas' sent five deserving Children's Choir members to choir camp (Music and Drama Camp, aka MAD Camp, at Shrine Mont) on scholarship. This year, we hope to be able to do the same!

With the current budget constraints, scholarships will require some creative funding on our part. If you would like to help with this worthy cause, please write a check (with the following in the memo line, exactly as written: *Parish Activity: MAD Camp Scholarship*), or put cash in an envelope so marked. No contribution is too small! Remember that you are investing in the future of St. Barnabas' with these young people. Thank you.

To Every Time There is a Season

'To every time there is a season', and my season with you here at St. Barnabas' is coming to an end. This coming June, my wife and I will say goodbye to our home of over 30 years, our church families and our friends and head off to the beautiful wine-country of the Finger Lakes of New York. (And, yes, I know, they have horrible snow there. Remember, I was raised and went to college there!). A move like this is bitter-sweet, of course. It will be difficult to leave behind those who for so many years have been part of the fabric of our lives. Ceil leaves behind 40 years as a Montessori teacher and 20 years as Director of Religious Education at Grace Church, Alexandria; I leave behind over 35 years as an Intellectual Property paralegal, and over 40 years as a Church Musician serving only six parishes in this area during that time.

We are excited that we will be moving back to be with family. We look forward to worshipping at historic St. Paul's Church in Rochester. The Minister of Music there is the Head of the Organ Department at Eastman School of Music. They also have a collegiate choir comprised of both faculty and voice majors from Eastman.

Our new Bishop will be The Right Reverend Prince Singh, Bishop of Rochester, a passionate and compassionate leader of the Episcopal Church. Now, hold onto your hat, he (Bishop Singh) is the cousin of our own Sujatha Augustine and Sudhir Frederick and spoke in our Adult Forum some years ago! What a small world we live in.

So, having said all of that, I want to thank you for allowing me to be part of your lives here at St. B's for the last 7 years. Together, we have borned, baptized, confirmed, married, reconciled, buried and supped at the table. We have installed a new organ, celebrated our 50th year as a faith-based community, and revamped the choir loft space to accommodate both choirs! All with music that I hope has made a difference to you. I hope that the music has caused you to see the face of God in your worship experience. I know it has for me, and I thank you for that gift!

I would be remiss if I did not personally thank those with whom I have worked so closely over the last 7 years; our Rector and the members of the Music Ministries, young and old, new and original shareholders, trained and untrained, all of whom I hope can say that they enjoyed 'making their heart sing.'

I wear my emotions on my sleeve! Leaving you all will be difficult. But, we are excited about what the future holds both in N.Y. and here at St. Barnabas'. May God bless this congregation and all the faithful as you strive to do His work in a torn world.

Sincerely,

David K. Snyder, Minister of Music

To Every Time There is a Season (continued)

P.S. I have just found out that I am to have heart surgery on Feb. 1. My recuperation time is anticipated to be 6-8 weeks which will prevent me from celebrating Easter with you. My special thanks to Stephen Ackert, Assistant Organist, who will undertake the leadership of the Adult Choir; and to Leigh Kennedy, Children's Choir Warden, who will undertake the leadership of the Children's Choir during my absence, and Cy Tamana who will be the pianist for them. I ask for your prayers. Thank you. If you have any questions or suggestions concerning the Music Ministries at St. Barnabas and the role that music plays in our worship, please do not hesitate to contact me.



UPCOMING MUSIC EVENTS

No Turning Back

Who were we made to be? That was just one of the questions we explored in our recent workshop, *No Turning Back: Continuing the Conversation on Race and Identity as People of God*. The workshop, led by Judy Fentress-Williams, professor of Old Testament at Virginia Theological Seminary, was held at St. Barnabas' on Saturday, January 9.

We began the day by thinking about how our personal identities are formed. Where did we come from? Who made us? Where do we belong now? We looked for answers to these questions in Genesis 1 and 2. God made us in his image. God made us to be in relationship not only with him, but also with the other human creatures he has made. Then Cain kills Abel and we have the first making a human brother in to *other*. Cain is punished for killing his brother, but the race goes on. More children are born, new families are formed. Some war with each other. Some consider themselves to be God's people, and exclude others. We are not the same. Differences abound. We can not be color-blind. What are the implications for us being part of this great family?

The next part of the morning we studied the story of Ruth. Here we heard about a woman in the country of Moab. She had married a Jew who had died, and she wanted to stay within his family, and return with her mother-in-law, Naomi, to the land of Judah. Here is a woman, from completely the wrong family, the wrong nation. She has no standing among the people of Judah, and yet she is to marry and live among them, and to be the ancestor of David, king of Judah. Ruth's identity, the unfolding of her life, shows how God works against the stereotype. (Ruth is strong enough to marry a Jew. She chooses to leave her home, and live in the land of Judah. Her virtue and faithfulness win her favor in the eyes of Boaz, the man she marries.)

At the end of the workshop, Dr. Fentress-Williams left us with more questions to ponder:

- What role does race/ethnicity play in our identity?
- How do we uniquely reflect the image of God and live in relationship?
- What elements need to be a part of our ongoing dialogue?
- What is God calling us to do/be as we continue on this journey?

The dialogue continues...

Sunday, April 17,

6 p.m.

Internationally known hammered-dulcimer artist Karen Ashbrook and harp-guitarist husband Paul Oorts will return to St. Barnabas' on Sunday, April 17th, for an evening of beautiful music in a candlelight concert at 6 p.m., followed by a reception in the Richardson Room. All proceeds will benefit the MAD Camp Scholarship Fund and St. Barnabas' Music Ministries.

Sunday, May 15

The Feast of Pentecost

During this service we will celebrate our Children's Choir with the Children's Choir Ribbon Ceremony.



Save the Date!

Rebuilding Together

A home repair workday

Saturday, April 30

Volunteers at all skill levels will be needed.

For more information or to volunteer, contact Frank Spink and Ken Mittelholtz.

OUTREACH FROM ST. BARNABAS' IN THE LAST MONTHS

Just Ask to End Human Trafficking

Northern Virginia Mental Health Institute

International Rescue Committee

Bethany House

Good Shepherd Home of the Community of St. John the Baptist

Samaritan Ministry

Church World Service

Virginia Theological Seminary

ACCA News—Annandale Christian Community for Action

The Rebuilding Together home repair workday will be Saturday, April 30. The project is organized by Rebuilding Together of Arlington, Fairfax and Falls Church to help make houses safer and more livable for low-income homeowners and non-profit organizations operating group homes. ACCA churches and volunteers have rehabilitated 117 houses over the last 26 years. Frank Spink and Ken Mittelholtz will again be serving as "house captains" (project managers), and St. Barnabas' has budgeted funds for our co-sponsorship of a house. Volunteers at all skill levels will be needed. We will know more about specific skill needs after we receive our assignment in early March. If you'd like to help or would like more information, please contact Ken or Frank (703-573-0074/703-256-7830).

St. Barnabas' is on duty to help at the ACCA furniture warehouse on January 30 and on March 5. If you can help, please come to the warehouse on the grounds of Annandale United Methodist Church on Columbia Pike, at 8 a.m. Volunteers pick up donations of used furniture and deliver furniture to households that need it. Thanks to Scott Moser for helping on December 5.

Thank you to everyone who contributed to the ACCA Challenge Campaign, held from November 2015 through January 2016. The campaign is ACCA's major fund-raising effort, and supplements funding from ACCA churches, grants, and Fairfax County. The funds raised by the campaign will help ACCA provide emergency assistance and other critical services for neighbors in need, and supports the developmental child care center for infants and preschool children of working families.

Many thanks to all who supported the fall 2015 Annandale CROP Hunger Walk. The walk raises funds to help Church World Service support hunger and disaster relief, refugee resettlement and sustainable development projects around the world. St. Barnabas' raised a total of \$3,320, including cash, check and online donations, for Church World Service. The 2015 Annandale CROP Hunger Walk raised a total of \$12,255 as of mid-January. CWS shares part of the funds raised by the Annandale walk with ACCA—in late 2015, ACCA received \$4,735 as the local share from the 2014 Annandale Walk. Special thanks go to our walkers and volunteers—Fred and Wanda Warren, Grace Robbins, Ann and Bob Sayles, Bonnie Baldwin, Elsa Cannon and Ken Mittelholtz. Camille Mittelholtz celebrated her 30th year as coordinator of the Annandale Walk.

St. Barnabas' participated in the ACCA-sponsored winter outerwear collection in December. Over 80 large bags of outerwear were collected and distributed to day laborers, to children at the ACCA Child Development Center, and residents at the Baileys Crossroads Shelter. We thank those who donated jackets, coats, hats and gloves. There will be a second outerwear clothing drive in February.

For more information about ACCA activities, please contact Camille or Ken Mittelholtz at kcmittelholtz@gmail.com or 703-573-0074.

Annandale Safe Youth Project (ASYP)

Thank you for the Christmas gifts for ASYP. Thank you cards have been requested and they should be out soon. Next year we are going to drop “shoes” off the wish list. It is very confusing and soccer shoes are way too expensive. The kids had Christmas all over again when they returned from break. Alternative House had their gifts available and each child was handed a bag with their things as they left, to cut down on the confusion. I know there were at least two American Girl dolls (hopefully three). It’s sad because the dolls we got from Walmart were quite pretty.

Leslie Reynoso is doing really well and the kids are getting a lot of good help. She has a very quiet way to deal with problems.

The trip to the library was wonderful and they were able to get two good reading books. It was a small group and everyone had a good time.

The weather is keeping Jack’s schedule up in the air for soccer! So many bitterly cold days! - Ann Woodle

Annandale Food Site

Recently, we started with 50 people signed in, but ended up with 65, which is about average. It is hard when so many people arrive late because we distribute the food based on the number signed of people signed in, then we quickly have to readjust.

I met one young lady volunteer who is the younger sister of a young man who pestered us about helping until we let him work behind the tables—he did a good job. It was delightful to meet his sister.

We get no milk from Food for Others, which is sad, as there are so many children. We still hand out diapers once a month, but just a couple each time. We would love diaper donations. Thank you for your support. You make a huge difference in many lives.

- Ann Woodle

Upcoming Surgeries for Staff

David Snyder, Minister of Music, will be having heart surgery on February 1 and anticipates being out for two months. During that period, Stephen Ackert of the St. Barnabas' congregation will serve as organist and will conduct the adult choir. Parishioners Leigh Kennedy and Cy Tamanaha will lead the children's choir.

Linda Wofford Hawkins, rector, will be having foot surgery March 2, anticipating being out for two weeks and wearing a walking boot for several weeks. Clergy substitutes will be arranged for Sunday service and emergency pastoral care.

The cooperation of everyone is appreciated as we prepare for these absences. Prayers are appreciated.

REPORTER DEADLINE

*Please note:
The deadline for the
Mar/Apr Reporter
will be
February 15.*

Please send your submissions to our editor, *Jocelyn Leatherwood*, at jsmith5617@aol.com and a copy to the church office at stbarnabaschurch@outlook.com.

2016 REPORTER NEWSLETTER SCHEDULE

Due Date	Issue
1/15/2016	February
2/15/2016	March/April (combined)
4/15/2016	May/June (combined)
6/15/2016	July/August (combined)
8/15/2016	September
9/15/2016	October
10/15/2016	November
11/15/2016	December/ January (combined)

Sing to the Lord a New Song

Advent and Christmas—What a wonderful liturgical season! The four weeks we spent preparing for the coming of Christ heightens our anticipation for the Feast of the Incarnation. Christmas Eve this year was terrific, especially with the new choir loft space. The service began with a choral prelude by the Adult and Children’s Choirs. Sandhya Augustine did a great job singing the first verse of ‘Once in Royal David’s City’ as the children processed to the Blessing of the Crèche. The choirs, brass, violin, cello, the organ, the singing congregation, the beautiful flowers, the lessons and the joyous celebration of the Holy Eucharist all joined together to welcome the Christ Child. What a tremendous gift it was to have the new choir loft!

The Epiphany Pageant—Once again, the parish of St. Barnabas’ told the ancient story of the Birth of Christ. Despite the weather, traffic on the beltway, etc. we were able to welcome the three wise people (Harvey Sawatis, Kathleen Stark, and Dick Crutchley) to St. Barnabas.’ The birth of that one tiny baby whose life changed the whole world—how blessed we are to be able to be a part of that special story. Thank you to all who helped make it happen. Special thanks to Ms. Theresa and the children.

Thank you, Thank you! - Thank you to all who participated in the Candlelight Advent Lessons and Carols service. Lots of practice and extra rehearsals resulted in a beautiful service.

The Spaghetti Supper Music Ministries’ Fund  to all who helped make ‘A Night in Venice 2016’ such a spectacular success. Special thanks to the Adult and Children’s Choirs [aka Music Ministries’] for staffing the kitchen, waiting on tables, etc. Funds collected will go to the Music Ministries, most specifically the Music and Drama (MAD) Camp Scholarship Fund.

Worship Space Renewal Project—The Worship Space Renewal Project is finally completed! Kudos to Gil Baldwin and Jack Miller for their tireless efforts to ensure that it was installed to their exacting design and specifications. Thank you also to all those who so generously helped support and fund the project. Truly, it is a wonderful gift! The Rector blessed the new loft the Sunday before Christmas.

If you have any questions or suggestions concerning the Music Ministries at St. Barnabas and the role that music plays in our worship, please do not hesitate to contact me.

David K. Snyder, Minister of Music

Placing Ourselves in the Presence of God

We pray for God’s presence, strength, and healing ... for Jose Ayala, Jonathan Barber, Deborah Batten, Bernard Blair, Emma Blevins, Wayne Bottlick, Ellen Crutchley, Sara Denby, Margot Donnelly, Pam Doty, Rotha Frye, Janet George, Pete Gustin, Barney Hawkins, Grace Haines, Fred Holmes, John Kiely, Tom Lyles, Cindy McLaughlin, Marion Meany, Audrey Merchant, Barbara Metz, Jane Moya, Berenice Palmer, Aliyah Phillips, Sheila Richardson, Bob Sayles, Marjorie Williams, Mareea Wilson, Dana Wiseman, Ann Woodle, and Colleen Zanin.

And for the faithful departed ... Patricia (Patty) Marion.

For the Church ... the Archbishop of Canterbury, Justin Welby; our Presiding Bishop, The Most Rev. Michael Curry; our Diocesan Bishops, The Rt. Rev. Shannon S. Johnston, The Rt. Rev. Susan E. Goff, and The Rt. Rev. Edwin F. “Ted” Gulick, and their families. For our Rector, the Rev. Linda Wofford Hawkins; our vestry, wardens, and staff; and for the work and ministry of Espiritu Santo and its mission of San Martine, Tela, Honduras.

Thank You from the Staff

All the church staff members join in thanking the congregation for the gifts we received during Christmastide. The following comes from former sexton, Bobby Joe Small:

Brothers and Sisters at St. Barnabas Church,

Thank you so much for all the love you gave me and family in 2015. I miss my job with you all. You made me feel human, as in Jesus' way of loving. You are good hearted people. Amen. I hope for you all the very best in the new 2016. I will try to get by to see you all this year. Thank you for your gift. Keep us in your prayers. PJ Kennedy as Sr. Warden, thank you!

Your brother in Christ Jesus, Rev. Bobby Joe



Thanks for showing us how to love the Jesus way, St. Barnabas, by being Jesus for so many people. The way you help the kids will always be in my heart. I will always pass on to others the work you are doing. To show Jesus' real love for all is St. Barnabas love.

The letter came in an envelope with a picture of the St. Barnabas' freight train to heaven across the front as drawn by Bobby Joe.

Thanks and More Thanks to...

- Barbara Miller and Carolyn Lilienthal for dusting the pews after the old carpet was removed
- Ellen, Jessica, and Andy Riddle for finding the beautiful new carpet color
- All those who donated time, talent, and treasure to the Worship Space Renewal project
- The Women of St. Barnabas' for an outstanding Christmas bazaar
- All those who attended the interfaith Thanksgiving service at Providence Presbyterian Church
- All who contributed to the blanket and coat drives to benefit both Syrian refugees and those in need locally
- Carolers who took Christmas to homes and nursing homes
- Sujatha Augustine, Librada Estrada, and all those who took part in the Fun at Christmas event
- The Finance Committee and vestry for their work in the financial life of the parish
- Grace Robbins and the Stewardship Committee for helping St. Barnabas' shine a light
- Judy Fentress-Williams, professor at Virginia Theological Seminary, and all those who participated in the "No Turning Back" workshop on January 9
- Stephen Ackert for music leadership in the Tidings of Comfort (Blue Christmas) service
- Anne Radway and all who participated in the greening of the church for Christmas
- All who supported the worship of Advent and Christmas—David Snyder and the Music Ministries, the Altar Guild, lectors, chalcists, ushers, acolytes
- Theresa Merchant, David Snyder, and all the cast of the Epiphany pageant
- Gil Baldwin and the Building & Grounds Committee fro the successful completion of the Worship Space Renewal Project



ST. BARNABAS'
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

4801 Ravensworth Road
Annandale, VA 22003

Phone: 703-941-2922

E-mail:

stbarnabaschurch@outlook.com

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**Through the African American Lens: Selections from the Permanent Collection
National Museum of American History - Saturday, February 27**

In conjunction with Black History Month and as part of the St. Barnabas' Lenten series, join us for a viewing of this exhibition, which features the personal and intimate narratives of various families, organizations and individuals spanning the Revolutionary era to the present. The exhibit offers an overall introduction to the Smithsonian's new National Museum of African American History and Culture, opening in the Fall of 2016. We plan to carpool, leaving the church between 9:30-9:45 am to arrive at the museum by 10:30. We will have lunch at the Stars & Strips Café. Watch for more information in early February concerning departure time and travel arrangements.

