

September 2020

The St. Barnabas' Reporter



It's a Hike

The Rev. John Bolin Shellito, Rector

Dear Friends,

I've done many a hike in my day.

I have vivid memories of various ascents I undertook in childhood and early adulthood, especially along the Presidential Range in New Hampshire. I always found my time spent hiking to be simultaneously exhausting and peaceful. After a flurry of activity gathering and packing the requisite food, water, and other provisions for the trip, I usually find myself starting out on the trail with a burst of enthusiasm. But it isn't long before that initial energy goes through a gradual process of transformation, as my body settles into a more physically demanding routine for the long haul.

I wonder if this is the place where we find ourselves in our common life with respect to our response to this COVID-19 virus. We are in the midst of a strange, months-long crisis that has brought dramatic changes to each of our lives, in profoundly local ways: from physical limitations to wearing a mask as a communal safeguard, to adjustments in our schedule and habits. I had no idea that a "crisis" could stretch out over the course of months. And, in a year that is unlike any other in my lifetime, I am hoping we as a church can reconnect with our Source in new ways in this "new land", so that we can hold onto our life-giving traditions, even as we settle in for the long haul, and continue praying together for a breakthrough. And, we are not alone in this crisis. People of faith throughout the ages have held fast to their God in the midst of displacement and change. Christ's own family members were refugees with him in Egypt, making their way through a strange land, and we can take courage from their example.

Additionally, in the hopes of our gathering for worship in a "new land", the Vestry has submitted a plan for Diocesan approval that will allow for outdoor services on September 13th and October 4th at 8:00 a.m. and 10:15 a.m., weather permitting (while wearing masks and maintaining physical distance of more than six feet from non-household members). Our intention is to do a Blessing of the Backpacks on September 13th, and a Blessing of the Animals as part of our services on October

(continued next page)

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

- *Parish Work Day*
- *Fellowship, Formation, and Conversation*
- *"One Together"*
- *Regathering - Outdoors*
- *Chats with Haley & John*
- *2021 Parish Retreat*
- *Celebrating the Feast of St. John the Baptist*
- *The Season of Quarantine*
- *Eco-Savvy Education*
- *Good Friday: A Painting*

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

ACCA	6
In the Presence of God	14
Kids Page	15
Online Worship/ Coffee/Bible Study	3
Thanks and More Thanks	10
Treasury Notes	4
Vestry Highlights	2
WOSB	8

**St. Barnabas'
Episcopal Church**

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

Parish Staff

The Rev. John Bolin Shellito
Rector

Mariel York
Dir. of Christian Education
Vacant

Interim Minister of Music

Catherine Dubas
Parish Administrator

Maria Bottlick
Bookkeeper

James Harris, *Sexton*

Vestry & Parish Officers

Maria Macfarlane
Senior Warden

Grace Robbins
Junior Warden

John Westerlund
Treasurer

PJ Kennedy
Assistant Treasurer

Ann Sayles
Register

Behn Ayala
Jonathan Barber
Sheena Friend
Art Hamerschlag
Sharon Jones
Alan Phillips
Dawn Schaefer

Catherine Dubas
Newsletter Editor

Schedule of Services

Sunday

8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist
9:15 a.m. Adult Choir
10:15 a.m. Holy Eucharist
*Nursery available
at 9:00 a.m.*

Wednesday Morning

10:00 a.m. Worship
*Holy Eucharist and Healing
on the first Wednesday
of each month*

It's a Hike *(continued from previous page)*

4th. Our plan is to have these services livestreamed for those who worship at home.

If you are anything like me, the approach of fall and the start of the traditional “program year” recalls a host of memories and habits. As much as I might procrastinate about getting my flu shot, I still find myself with a renewed longing for the outdoors: I love the crisp fall breeze, the smell of fallen leaves, and the opportunities for apple picking, hot apple cider, and fall foliage. I still find myself drawn to books and study as the earlier sunsets create more space for peace and quiet during the evening hours.

Alongside my prayers for all those facing difficult challenges right now, I’m thankful for St. Barnabas’ and for the many leaders who make it such a powerful space for God’s transformational care to be at work.

God’s peace be with you,

With much gratitude and anticipation,

John+

Vestry Highlights—June, August 2020

June 17, 2020 – ZOOM Meeting

- The Regathering Committee has reviewed information from the Diocese, the CDC, and NoVa/Fairfax County and submitted “Guidelines for Staff and Visitors to our Building” for the Vestry to review .
- The FACETS program is ongoing with adjustments to conform to the COVID-19 safety requirements. Volunteers are needed.
- The Shrine Mont Parish Retreat is cancelled for 2020. The Committee hopes to be able to host a one-day outdoor retreat in the spring 2021.
- The Realm Giving Dashboard indicates that St. Barnabas received \$30,000 in May, 2020.
- Monies have been allocated to purchase items needed for the protection of the parishioners, e.g., hand sanitizer spray stations, disposable masks, Clorox wipes and sprays, disposable gloves, etc.

(continued on p. 11)

St. Barnabas’ Mission:

Serving our community, the world, and each other through the love of Jesus Christ.

Parish Work Day—Saturday, September 5, 2020

But is it really a workday if you're having fun?

Join your St. Barnabas' friends for a safe, socially distanced workday on Saturday, September 5, from 8 a.m. to 12 noon.

We'll weed and spruce up the flower beds and grassy areas around the church, do minor outside maintenance, and move branches from a fallen tree.

Bring work gloves, loppers and other gardening tools, and of course your masks. Water and coffee will be provided (bring your own travel mug for coffee).

See you there!



Online Worship, Spiritual Coffee Hour & Bible Study

St. Barnabas' Spiritual Coffee Hour at 9:00 am on Sunday Mornings with Online Worship before at 8:00 am and 10:15 am

Online Worship is available on the church's Facebook page on Sunday Mornings at 8am and 10:15am:

<https://www.facebook.com/StBarnabasEpiscopal/>

Online Worship is also available on YouTube, and those links are typically emailed to the parish on Fridays. Parishioners are encouraged to comment and pray online together, as we all adjust to the unprecedented times in which we are living.

For Spiritual Coffee Hour, the readings will be those listed on The Lectionary Page, found at www.lectionarypage.net. We have been making our way through Track 1 this summer.

Spiritual Coffee Hour/Bible Study—Permanent Login Until End of September:
<https://zoom.us/j/95389625482?pwd=OTRbCVU4V2VSVIM1OVhxVmFSREF5QT09>

Meeting ID: 953 8962 5482

Password: 0611

Dial by your location

+1 301 715 8592

One tap mobile

+13126266799,,95389625482#,,#0611# US (Chicago)

+19292056099,,95389625482#,,#0611# US (New York)



Next Date for Baptisms

All Saints' Day



November 1, 2020

*If you or someone you know is interested in Holy Baptism please contact
the Rev. John Shellito
or the Parish Office.*

FACETS Substitute Needed

FACETS continues its work to provide hot meals to the homeless on the first Sunday of each month. Procedures have been adapted to accommodate COVID-19 rules. We still could use one volunteer on an occasional (substitute) basis to be a passenger for food delivery. If you are interested in finding out more please contact Jack Miller or the Parish Office.



Fellowship, Formation, and Conversation

Sponsored by the Adult Christian Education Committee



Join us for a time to chat, to share, to laugh, and to enjoy friendship Sundays at 11:00 a.m.

[Zoom Login for Fellowship, Formation, and Conversation](#)

Meeting: <https://zoom.us/j/91836486389?pwd=Vyt6SnNzTkZEMFV3Y2JZSjZLSkJwQT09>

Meeting ID: 918 3648 6389

Passcode: 2020

Dial +1 929 205 6099 US (New York)

Meeting ID: 918 3648 6389 Passcode: 2020

SUNDAY MORNINGS

8:00 a.m. Sunday Morning Worship

9:00 a.m. Spiritual Coffee Hour and Bible Study

10:15 a.m. Sunday Morning Worship

11:00 a.m. Fellowship, Formation, and Conversation

See the St. Barnabas' Episcopal Church website: st-barnabaschurch.org

Virtual Worship tab for Zoom links and information.

\$\$ Treasury Notes \$\$

“May you live in interesting times.” *Chinese Proverb*

Friends and Family of St. Barnabas:

As I hear the continued news of COVID-19 and how prolonged the pandemic is, I can't help but think of Joseph and the seven years of plenty followed by seven years of famine. We, of course, had many blessed years, and can happily attest that before COVID-19 we were wise to cherish our extra savings and put them away for a rainy day. Now, we may be in a prolonged period where things won't be normal, perhaps not until next year. John Shellito mentioned last night that our outreach, including FACETS, is witnessing more people in need than ever before. I was also reminded by Vestry member Dawn Schaeffer that the schools are opening up Student Aged Child Care (SACC) for families, for \$1400 a child. That would be a substantial struggle for a family with two children (\$2800 per month), and unaffordable for many others. It honestly evokes this quote:

Do all the good you can, By all the means you can, In all the ways you can, In all the places you can, At all the times you can, To all the people you can, As long as ever you can.

Please know that your pledges continue to do Jesus' work and lift up the sick and needy.

God Bless,

J.W. (John Westerlund)

Stewardship Campaign “One Together”

by Beth Harper, Stewardship Committee Chair

Fall typically is a time of beginnings at St. Barnabas'. Sunday School and the Adult Forum resume, the choirs are back in the loft, and we bless backpacks and other work tools as we kick off our new program year. Fall is also the time when we prayerfully consider stewardship. How will we each support and perhaps even extend our ministries within our parish and in the wider community?

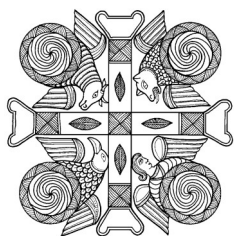


The theme for this fall's stewardship campaign is “One Together,” taken from the liturgy for Holy Baptism. It may be easy to lose sight of our togetherness in the midst of the coronavirus pandemic, but in fact our community is more important than ever. We gather for worship in front of our computer screens instead of in the nave, but we see the faces of our friends, hear Stephen playing the organ, and listen to John's sermons. We even have stories, meditations, and remote VBS for our children! Our outreach ministries continue to support the most vulnerable: FACETS volunteers feed the homeless and we provide ongoing support for ACCA.

As we move through the fall, you can expect to hear more about stewardship. Our committee is gathering now – remotely, of course – to begin our work. We ask that you begin to prayerfully consider how you will support St Barnabas' in 2021.

Regathering Committee of St. Barnabas' Proposes Monthly In-Person Outdoor Services

by Molly Newling, Regathering Committee Chair



At the August meeting the Vestry approved the Regathering Committee proposal for St. Barnabas' to hold in-person, monthly outdoor services. The proposal now will go to the Diocese of Virginia for the bishop's review and approval. We hope to offer our first in-person outdoor service in September.

The service could be Morning Prayer or Holy Eucharist (with no distribution of elements), possibly with instrumental music (but no singing); we still are working out the best outdoor location. It is to be broadcast in real time and also recorded (for later access) to accommodate those who prefer to worship at home.

We will pre-designate spaces for individuals or families to sit together, and attendees will be urged to bring their own chairs. Restrooms will be available for emergency use only. Sanitizing stations will be available. **Masks will be required** for everyone for the entire time they are on the church property. As always, everyone is required to follow CDC, commonwealth, and county rules and regulations.

More details, including service dates, will be announced as soon as the proposal is approved by the Diocese, so watch your email or check the St. Barnabas' website: www.st-barnabaschurch.org.

ACCA News – Annandale Christian Community for Action

CROP Hunger Walk -ACCA is planning a virtual Annandale CROP Hunger Walk this year. While the walk will be virtual, the needs are real. Join with us to raise funds for Church World Service and ACCA to fight poverty and disaster near and far. Walkers can walk in family or small groups or alone. I encourage walkers to walk on Saturday October 17 at 9 a.m., but you can walk at any time. Walkers can raise funds online, by check, or cash. The link to St. Barnabas' team is www.crophungerwalk.org/annandaleva, or contact Camille.



Family Emergency and Food - ACCA continues to respond to significantly increased calls for rent and food assistance due to economic impacts of the pandemic. In April, May, and June, ACCA gave more than four times the usual assistance. ACCA works closely with Fairfax County social services staff, social workers, and clergy or other assistance organizations to refer clients. An ACCA Family Emergency Assistance volunteer determines how ACCA can help, and the Committee makes payments directly to the landlord or utility. Many of those assisted are eligible for funds from ACCA's allocation from Fairfax County/the Federal CARES Act. Donations can be made online at <https://accacares.org/> or by check payable to ACCA and mailed to 7200 Columbia Pike, Annandale, VA 22003.

The ACCA Food Pantry gives a week's groceries and personal care products to a household that has an urgent need. A food volunteer arranges for a volunteer driver to take the food to the client. For social distancing during the pandemic, different volunteers work inside the pantry to bag the food and other items for the household in need. Households receive pasta and rice, canned meats, beans, pasta sauce, soups, juice, fruit, and vegetables. The pantry provides fresh milk, eggs, bread, meat, fruit, and vegetables. The deliveries also include laundry soap, personal care products, toilet paper, and special needs such as diapers. Special care is taken to avoid delivering foods a client cannot have for allergy or religious reasons.

The food pantry is collecting donations of nonperishable food and hygiene/cleaning supplies at 7200 Columbia Pike, Annandale weekdays between 1 p.m. and 5 p.m., and Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 12 noon. You can also bring donations to St. Barnabas' (please contact the Parish Administrator).

Rebuilding Together - To protect homeowners and volunteers, Rebuilding Together Arlington-Fairfax-Falls Church (RT-AFF) has decided that National Rebuilding Day repair projects have been moved to April 2021. RT-AFF has developed strict safety protocols and is beginning to reengage with limited home repair projects that can be done by a few volunteers.

Furniture – The furniture ministry will resume deliveries and pickups of furniture donations on Saturday, September 12. We will receive the schedule for volunteers in late August and will announce the assigned St. Barnabas' duty dates in the weekly parish email.

Scholarship - Catherine Soto was selected as ACCA's 2020 Ruffing Scholar. ACCA awards a college scholarship in memory of ACCA founders Emily and Fred Ruffing to a graduating senior who has overcome disabilities. Catherine excelled at her studies at Lee High School (now Lewis High School) in Springfield and will attend Bryn Mawr College.

Child Development Center – The Fairfax County Health Department recently commended the ACCA CDC and its staff for providing care during the pandemic, for protecting the health of children and families, and especially for ensuring that infants and children receive age-appropriate immunizations.

Chats With Haley and John

by Grace Robbins, Transition Team Chair

Of the many deprivations of the pandemic, one that hits us hard at St. Barnabas' is our inability to visit in person with our new rector, John, and his wife, Haley Bolin Shellito. We have the great benefit of participating with them virtually in Sunday services and Adult Christian Education--and some of us work with John at Zoom meetings--but that doesn't take the place of visiting over a Danish at Coffee Hour or having them over to supper on a weeknight.

Well, thanks to the wonders of the Internet, that's about to change! Haley and John have suggested dates when we can sign up to get to know each other for an hour on Sundays (time TBA) or on Tuesday nights either during dinner or after their children have been tucked in. Our parish administrator, Catherine Dubas, will send out a link where parishioners can sign up for a visit. The idea is to have a small number of 6 or fewer at a time so we can have deeper conversations. However, ministries with 6+ members (altar guild, choir, and so on) who would like to schedule a group visit are welcome to do so.

Here is the proposed schedule:

Sunday Virtual Coffee Hour

Sept. 6th ▪ 12:30-1:30 pm Coffee and Conversation

Labor Day Weekend

Sept. 27th ▪ 12:00-1:00 pm "Potluck" Luncheon

Oct. 11th ▪ 12:30-1:30 pm Coffee and Conversation

Oct. 25th ▪ 12:00-1:00 pm "Potluck" Luncheon

Tuesday Virtual Dinner/Dessert

Sept. 15th ▪ 6:00-7:00 pm "Potluck" Dinner

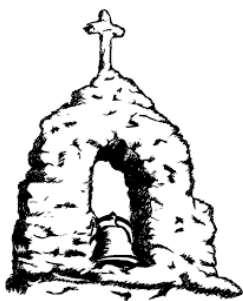
Sept. 22nd ▪ 8:30-9:30 pm Dessert/Decaf

Oct. 6th ▪ 6:00-7:00 pm "Potluck" Dinner

Oct. 20th ▪ 8:30-9:30 pm Dessert/Decaf

You also can sign up by contacting the Parish Office. Catherine can sign you up or help you do so. Watch for emails from "Parish Administrator" with all the details.

Save the Date!—2021 Parish Retreat



While our annual Parish Retreat at Shrine Mont has been cancelled for this fall, the schedule for 2021 is already confirmed: October 1-3, 2021. Save the date now!

Meanwhile, Shrine Mont is open for your personal reservations, with plenty of measures in place to keep staff and guests safeguarded from the novel coronavirus. Entrances and exits to Virginia House are limited, masks are required, there are regular temperature checks, and seating at the dining hall is arranged to provide physical distance between groups. You also can take your meals to go, or even have them delivered. Room service on the mountain!

For more information, including information on their "Summer's End" weekend (September 4-7, 2020) see their website at <https://shrinemont.com/>.

Celebrating the Feast of St. John the Baptist

by Len LeRoy

Archdeacon Halbert Pons celebrated the Feast of St. John the Baptist (June 24) on Saturday, June 27, 2020 at our sister church in Cuba, San Juan Bautista in Palma Soriano. (see photo, right) The chasuble and stole were a gift from the Rev. Canon Carol Cole Flanagan to Deacon Noel, who will wear it once he is ordained.

A church's patron saint's feast is a very special occasion in Cuba, celebrated with Eucharist and a feast. This year, Deacon Noel sent me a WhatsApp message telling me that he had prayed for St. Barnabas' on our "Dia Patronal," the day of our patron saint. When I was growing up in Cuba some of my friends would actually have a bigger party on their saint's day than on their birthday. That custom has died out, but the saint's day is still an important day for any Cuban congregation and will typically be observed with a worship service and a party or gathering of some sort.

Noel's message reminded me that praying for each other is an important part of any inter-parish relationship.



Women of St. Barnabas' (WOSB) News

The Women of St. Barnabas' are eagerly awaiting the days when we are back to normal! We miss each other but are grateful for the Sunday services and coffee hour with the Spiritual Coffee Hour/Bible Study (Adult Forum). It is great to see fellow church members even virtually. It has been especially rewarding to see and hear John, our new priest.

The WOSB has had limited activity this spring and summer. Our treasurer Bonnie Baldwin safely relocated to Florida just ahead of the shut-down. We miss her and look forward to an actual farewell at some time. Camille Mittelholtz has stepped seamlessly into her place and has been holding the treasury fort this summer. We have donated cash to ACCA and will try to get together sometime in the fall to decide on allocation of funds to our other charities. We are reminded that ACCA has seen an increase in requests for food from their food pantry and for money from their Family Emergency Assistance Fund. They too are seeing the economic impact of CoVID-19. Their need is great so please help with donations of food and money.

It is with real regret that Mary Yeaman and Janet George, our officers, have decided that we will not have our popular Christmas Bazaar this year. It has been our prime money maker for both outreach and inreach, and it was a welcome event for the congregation. Perhaps later in the year or early next year we can have a simpler bazaar, offering jewelry, scarves, purses and our White Elegance (St. Barnabas' term for an upscale rummage sale!). The members of the Barnabees, the craft group of the WOSB, will miss making, sewing, and painting all the crafts and other Christmas items as we have done for years. We had fun and so enjoyed the fellowship, and our Friday night preview was a looked-for annual treat.

For now, there will not be an in-person September meeting. We have been keeping in touch by phone and email, and we can hope and pray that we can meet safely in October.

- Gertrude Jones

The Season of Quarantine

by Bob Macfarlane

We are experiencing as individuals, church, nation, and world something none of us alive today has known before: a pandemic (Greek, *pan*, all; *demos*, people) caused by a virus unknown to us until now, COVID-19. The virus has imposed on us something of a universal Lent.

Our liturgical Lent of 40 days began this year on February 26 and ended on April 11. We celebrated (individually and remotely) Easter on April 12, and then returned immediately to Lent, imposed by COVID-19. Our regional attempts in this country to lift restrictions have led to increases in illness and death, and restrictions have been at least partially re-imposed.

The pandemic has led to quarantines in various places across the world. The definition of quarantine (Latin, *quadraginta*, 40) is a period of 40 days of isolation imposed on a person, animal, or thing to prevent them from spreading a contagious disease. We humans seem to be the chief spreaders of the tiny creature we call COVID-19.

The quarantine already has lasted more than 40 days, and the end is not in sight. Perhaps church historians will call this period the Season of Quarantine. Even though some restrictions have been eased and some bustle is returning to streets and stores, there is discernable quiet in our region. Most church buildings are closed for worship, and congregational gatherings are, in IT terminology, “virtual.”

However, although we are not gathering in person, we have various means of being together. Our prayer unites us, as does our reading and study of the Bible. As Episcopal Christians we have the resource of the Book of Common Prayer. One of the reasons the Prayer Book was developed in the sixteenth century was to encourage worship outside of church buildings as well as inside, to put ordered and regular prayer into the hands (and minds and hearts) of everyone. The Book of Common Prayer is a rich and precious resource for us all, especially in this unusual time when we are not able to gather in our church buildings.

I am appreciating more than I ever have before what the Prayer Book calls the “Daily Offices,” Morning and Evening Prayer. The psalms are an essential part of the Daily Office, speaking to God for us and to us for God. (One more visit to the dictionary: Greek, *psalmos*, song sung to a harp, from *psallein*, to pluck.)

Through the ages the psalms have been central to both Jewish and Christian prayer. The Prayer Book offers two ways of praying the psalms. One way is to pray them as they are assigned to each office, morning and evening, day by day.

Another way is to pray them consecutively, morning by morning, evening by evening, day by day. The Prayer Book Psalter is organized to make this second method easy, and I have come to prefer it. This method takes us through the entire Psalter in the course of a month of 30 days, so that, in that period, using the words of the Psalms, we have shared the heights and depths of our relationships with God, with each other, and with all of creation. The Psalms provide us words, used by our brothers and sisters through the ages, to praise God for His creation and love as well as to struggle and agonize with God about our life situations.

The psalms are addressed to God, perhaps most dramatically when they are accusing God of abandoning His people, of ignoring them, and of failing to address injustice done to them, and (perhaps most disturbingly) asking God to avenge the psalmist on his enemies. When one prays the psalms day by day, all 150 of them in 30 days, the reader/prayer will find that the psalmist has anticipated and expressed the reader's thoughts, desires, hopes, fears, and thanksgivings. And although the words of the psalms originally arose in the hearts of humans, they are now part of God's revealed word, the Bible, and they have become a vehicle, as it were, to carry us into God's presence.

(continued next page)

The Season of Quarantine *(continued from p. 9)*

The psalms give us permission to open our hearts to God completely. In one of his last moments on the cross Jesus prayed a psalm, using the psalmist's words to express his desolation:

*My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?
And are so far from my cry
And from the words of my distress (Ps. 22:1)*

To be sure, the psalms assigned in the daily office on a given day may not express what we are experiencing at that moment. But as the words of the psalms become woven into our minds, they will help us to recognize that in the Risen Christ we are part of a vast and timeless stream of life created and sustained by God.

We are entered into what I have called the Season of Quarantine. We don't know how or when it will end or what changes it will bring to our lives and the world. In this unsettling time we may find ourselves more aware of our dependence upon God, and of our calling to take up our cross and follow Christ.

July 18, 2020

Thanks and More Thanks...

- To Molly Newling for her leadership of the Regathering Committee as chair.
- To all members of the Regathering Committee for their dedicated care, as we have worked to put together a proposal to the Diocese for select occasions for Outdoor Worship this fall: Betty Jo Fortune, Camille Mittelholtz, Cy Tamana, Delilah Stearns, Ed Ing, Kathy Schaefer, Maria Macfarlane, and Mariel York.
- To the Transition Committee for helping me (John) get to know St. Barnabas' congregational rhythms of life.
- To Jess and Andy Riddle for their hours of creative, skillful, and inspiring videography work to help us gather for Online Worship as a congregation.
- To Mariel York for her faithful contributions, including the distribution of "VBS in a Box" and other formation materials.
- To George Sinclair for scheduling our Online Lectors this summer and into the fall.
- To Ann Radway and Molly Newling for the altar flowers that brighten our Online Worship offerings.
- To those who perform the weekly count of pledge payments and other contributions to the church.
- To Jeff Schaeffer for leading the Spiritual Coffee Hour and Bible Study Zoom meetings each Sunday, and for the St. Barnabas' Story Lady, Kathleen Stark and her wonderful offerings to the children of the parish.
- To Ken & Camille Mittelholtz who continue to help with upkeep and maintenance issues, and James Harris our sexton for keeping the building clean and well cared-for.

Vestry Highlights *(continued from p. 2)*

- Jessica and Andy Riddle have agreed to use their videography skills and talents to produce our Sunday online Morning Prayer services.
- The Building & Grounds Committee will coordinate with the Regathering Committee to ensure that our parishioners remain safe.

NOTE: On June 25, 2020 via e-mail vote, the Vestry approved the following motion:

- The Vestry of St. Barnabas' hereby grants its approval for the Rev. John Bolin Shellito, the third [sic] Rector of St. Barnabas' Episcopal Church, to have his name added to the Rector's Discretionary Fund bank account, effective immediately.

August 19, 2020 – ZOOM Meeting

- The Vestry approved the Regathering Committee's Plan for Outdoor Services. The plan will be sent to the Diocese for final approval. We hope to have outside worship at least once a month, as well as on feast and saints' days.
- The Vestry approved the appointment of Katie Westerlund as Delegate to the Diocesan Convention and Beth Harper as Alternate in 2020 and 2021.
- Our finances are in good shape, reserves are healthy, and pledges continue to come in.
- The Transition Team is planning a virtual coffee hour/gathering so that the congregation can have a conversation with John and Haley Shellito.
- The Youth Committee Charter was reviewed and approved.
- The Stewardship Committee has begun its work. Members: Beth Harper, Chair; Maria Macfarlane, Senior Warden; Grace Robbins, Junior Warden; Cricket Camp; Molly Newling; Mark Patterson; Katie Westerlund; Mariel York, DCE; and James Carroll.
- On September 6th there will be an online Diocese-wide worship service with Bishop Goff as preacher.
- The Blessing of the Backpacks and work tools is planned for September 20, 2020.

Anne Sayles, Register

Reporter Deadline ▪ Parish Office Hours

The deadline for the October 2020 issue of *The St. Barnabas Reporter* is Tuesday, September 15th. Please submit announcements and/or photos to the Parish Office at stbarnabaschurch@outlook.com. Hard copies of announcements and photos are welcome, as well.

Normal Parish Office hours resume in September: 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. Please note, the Parish Administrator will work from home whenever practical on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday, with plans to be in the office every Monday and Thursday.

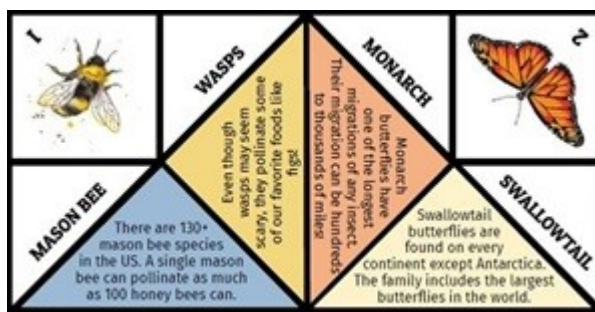
Eco-Savvy Families: Virtual Outdoor Education for Children and Teens

by Mariel York, DCE

We live in uncertain times, with schools moving to 100% virtual instruction this fall and outdoor education put on hold. Parents and teachers may be at a loss as to how to connect children and teens with nature. Through gardening, weeding, planting, crafts, and DIY projects families can design an outdoor space to relax, meditate, and contemplate nature.



There are basic ways that families can create a natural garden as well as provide a virtual classroom at home. Backyards that offer food, water, cover, and nesting places for animals to raise young provide the four required elements of a Certified Wildlife Habitat. By maintaining your backyard habitat in a sustainable, eco-savvy way you will ensure that the soil, air, and water that native wildlife needs stay clean and healthy.



Once your family has created an eco-savvy garden for wildlife in your backyard, on your balcony, as a container garden, or greenspace, consider registering your area as a [Certified Wildlife Habitat®](https://www.nwf.org/CertifiedWildlifeHabitat/Habitats/Information) at <https://www.nwf.org/CertifiedWildlifeHabitat/Habitats/Information>

Eco-Schools USA Virtual Classroom Resources and Videos



Eco-Schools USA

Parents do not need to “reinvent the wheel” in researching or developing outdoor education programs. The National Wildlife Federation has created an *Eco-Schools USA* program of learning about nature, virtually and at home, that can be fun and challenging.

(continued next page)

National Standards and Curriculum

<https://www.nwf.org/Eco-Schools-USA/Resources/Curriculum/Standards>

The Eco-Schools USA program supports two major sets of national standards as they relate to science education: the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) and the Common Core State Standards (CCSS). “In an effort to support teachers and parents during the COVID-19 crisis, NWF has put together a collection of activities and crafts to help you connect your students and children to nature, even from inside your home. National Wildlife Federation's Eco-Schools USA is the nation's largest comprehensive green school program. Combining environment-based learning with hands-on experiences, the Eco-Schools USA program sparks action that ripples out into the greater community.”

Virtual Classroom Resources

<https://www.nwf.org/Eco-Schools-USA>

Eco-Schools USA YouTube Channel

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC3R9EC54Ai-hIZfuyU9p3zQ>

Go on a Virtual Hike from Home, Learn about Biodiversity, Virtually Observe Wildlife as a Scientist, Learn Outdoor Safety, Connect Kids to Nature,

Learning Activities

Eco-Schools USA has a collection of short, at-home learning activities that teachers can share or families can complete together. Take a virtual field trip with “Nature’s Witness™,” the National Wildlife Federation’s first-ever exhibition of wildlife photography chosen from the National Wildlife® Photo Contest.

Eco-Schools USA Virtual Trips and Activities

All Ages

[Virtual Field Trip](#)

[Biodiversity Activity](#)

Grades K-5

[Bird Activity Guide](#)

[What's the Matter in Nature Activity](#)

[Monarch Recovery Garden Model](#) (K-2)

[Symmetry in Nature](#) (PreK)

Grades 6-12

[Energy in My State Activity](#) [Species in Decline](#)

Unlock the latest news from *Eco-Schools USA*

Eco-Schools USA E-Newsletter

Wildlife News/Garden for Wildlife/ Create an Outdoor Space/ News on Wildlife

Educator Resources/Learn about Classroom Activities

Good Friday: A Painting (acrylic on canvas)

by Kathleen Stark



Good Friday is the first in a series I painted about Holy Week. The other two are *Jesus Appears to Mary in the Garden* and *Jesus Ascends to the Father*.

I wanted to paint about the three most important events in the life of Jesus: His Crucifixion, Resurrection, and Ascension. These three events were the reason God as Man came to earth. They were what His three years of ministry on earth were all about. He came to show that even though men and women could not save themselves, if they only believed in Jesus and followed Him, they would find salvation.

In the Presence of God

We pray for God's strength and healing ... Bernard Blair, Emma Blevins, Jean Anne Braddon, Margot Donnelly, Frank Donnelly, Rotha Frye, Lee Gibbs, Roger Hefferan, Gertrude Jones, Sharon Jones, Tom Lyles, Bob Macfarlane, Cindy McLaughlin, Marion Meany, Barbara Metz, Rusty Moore, Jane Moya, Marie Pannier, Aliyah Phillips, Beth Phillips, Anne Radway, Barbara Rigden, Ann Sayles, Frank Spink, Kathleen Stark, David Steidel, Dana Wiseman, and Ann Woodle.

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 E. Goff, The Rt. Rev. Jennifer Brooke-Davidson, The Rt. Rev. Shannon S. Johnston, The Rt. Rev. David Colin Jones, The Rt. Rev. Ted Gulick, The Rt. Rev. Peter James Lee, and The Rt. Rev. F. Clayton Matthews 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 St. John the Baptist Episcopal Church, Palma Soriano, Cuba.

KIDS PAGE



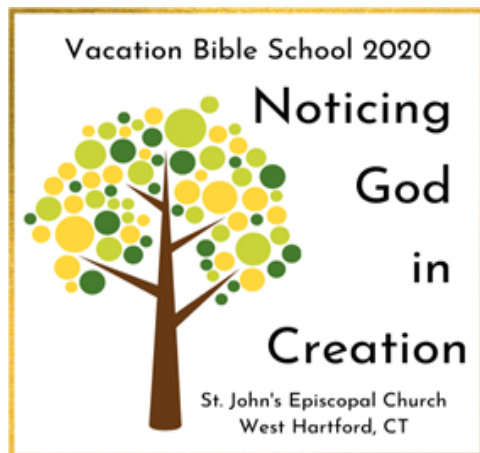
NASA INTERACTIVE KIDS' CLUB

Hello, Earth Kids! My name is Nebula. Welcome to NASA Interactive Kids' Club, a place to play games and learn about NASA!

<https://www.nasa.gov/kidsclub/index.html>

LIGHT IN THE VALLEY

A big THANK YOU to everyone for their interest in the Shrine Mont Camp-in-a-Box program, "Light in the Valley." They shipped over 200 boxes and are so grateful for your love and support.



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL IN A BAG

St. Barnabas' Episcopal Church Annandale, Virginia gives thanks and credit to the Rev. Margie Baker, St. John's Episcopal Church, West Hartford, CT for creating and sharing Vacation Bible School-in-a-Bag *Noticing God in Create: At-Home VBS for Families*. The VBS materials are available to be used, adapted, and shared. Copies may be found on the *Building Faith* website:

<https://buildfaith.org/noticing-god-in-creation-at-home-vbs-for-families/amp/>



**ST. BARNABAS'
EPISCOPAL CHURCH**

4801 Ravensworth Road
Annandale, VA 22003

Phone: 703-941-2922

E-mail:

stbarnabaschurch@outlook.com

Non Profit
U.S. Postage
Merrifield, VA
Permit #214

Change Service Requested

We're on the Web!

www.st-barnabaschurch.org



One Together

Fall Stewardship Campaign

*There is one Body and one Spirit;
There is one hope in God's call to us;
One Lord, one Faith, one Baptism;
One God and Father of all.*

BCP, p. 299