

February 2022

The St. Barnabas' Reporter



Making Preparations

The Rev. John Bolin Shellito
Rector

Dear Friends,

In a recent clergy call, Bishop Susan Goff described how the Diocese is planning on two parallel tracks for the special Electing Convention for the next Bishop Diocesan, scheduled for Saturday June 4th. God willing and the people consenting, the Electing Convention will allow for a new Bishop Diocesan-elect to then be Consecrated on Saturday December 3rd, 2022. We do not yet know if those events will be virtual or in person, but the Diocese is making plans so that we are ready either way.

The Diocesan approach, to make these plans on two parallel tracks is a wise one, and informs how we have approached the past half dozen weeks, and how we can continue to move forward this winter, as we monitor the spread of Omicron. I'm very thankful that we could gather in-person this past Christmas, and the Regathering Committee's decision to go virtual for the month of January was a wise one. Hopefully a decreasing frequency of cases in our area will combine with an increasing proportion of individuals who have received their booster shot, such that we can safely offer the opportunity for masked in-person worship soon, alongside the virtual ways in which we are still able to gather together.

And, as we approach Lent once more, we have an opportunity to plan for how we would like to approach this season for reflection, renewal, and growth. I encourage you to make space in your schedule for a Lenten small group—the sessions will begin on the first Sunday in Lent and will be centered on Growing a Rule of Life, a program created in late 2015 and early 2016 by the Society of Saint John the Evangelist in Boston, in partnership with the Virginia Theological Seminary Center for Lifelong learning. The program uses the metaphor of a garden as an opportunity to consider how we would like to structure various aspects of our spiritual life. Seven years may feel like eons ago, but I believe this program will be meaningful and refreshing. Please sign up using the following link:

<https://forms.gle/byU4pvDXmC91y3vP8>

While I don't think that everyone is called to commit to a Rule of Life in the way that it is practiced in a convent or monastery, the disciplines of prayer

(continued next page)

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

- *Stewardship 2022*
- *FACETS Needs Plastic Bags*
- *Joy Lyles Thank-You*
- *Vestry Class of 2024*
- *ASYP Holiday Party, New Tutor Coordinator*
- *UTO Offering*
- *Bishop Transition*
- *Phishing Scams*
- *Christmas at St. John's*
- *Hypothermia Shelter Meals*
- *Staff Thank-You*

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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

Catherine Dubas
Parish Administrator

Maria Bottlick
Bookkeeper

James Harris, *Sexton*

Vestry & Parish Officers

Ellen Riddle
Senior Warden

Larry Stark
Junior Warden

John Westerlund
Treasurer

PJ Kennedy
Assistant Treasurer

Ann Sayles
Register

Behn Ayala

Sam Batten

Sheena Friend

Beth Harper

Shirley Newman

Norma Ricketts

Dawn Schaefer

—
Catherine Dubas
Newsletter Editor

***Sunday
Worship Schedule***

8 a.m. Holy Eucharist

10:15 a.m. Holy Eucharist
with music

Making Preparations *(continued from p. 1)*

in those spaces can help us reflect on the practices, values, and habits that give us life, and, if that helps us provide space and time for some measure of growth in our own life in Christ, then so much the better. It's easy to forget in the dead of winter that there is going to be new life bursting forth this spring. But now is actually a very good time for us to consider how we can begin to make preparations--

Blessings,
John+

Vestry Highlights - December 15, 2021

- The vestry approved a motion to allocate \$4,500 of the \$5,000 budgeted funds for a St. Barnabas' Tutor Coordinator for the Annandale Safe Youth Project (ASYP) summer camp and for up to two "make up camps" in the spring and fall; the remaining \$500 is to be used for sports equipment and landscaping to prepare a level soccer field.
- There have been several instances of fraudulent e-mails seemingly coming from John+ to parishioners requesting money, gift cards, etc. Other churches are having the same issues. The police have been notified. In addition, it was decided that, in the future, any major financial request or activity must be verbally confirmed.
- The annual Vestry Retreat will be held on Saturday, February 5, 2022 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.
- The Vestry approved Ellen Riddle as Senior Warden and Larry Stark as continuing Junior Warden. John Westerlund was appointed Treasurer, and Ann Sayles Register.
- The Vestry approved an allocation of \$5,000 to ACCA and an additional \$1,750 to the Rebuilding Together program.

By electronic vote, as of 12/22/2021 the Vestry approved \$7,082 for the purchase, installation, and setup of a permanent audio/visual system, including camera and microphone, and designated laptop for livestreaming.

Ann Wentworth Sayles, Register

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



While they were eating, Jesus took a loaf of bread, and after blessing it he broke it, gave it to the disciples, and said "Take, eat: this is my body."
Matthew 26:26

Stewardship 2022 Thanks and More Thanks

by Beth Harper, Stewardship Committee

Many thanks to everyone who made a pledge for 2022. The total amount pledged as of this writing is \$314,945. That amount includes four youth pledges, for which we're especially grateful. Thank you St. Barnabas'!

We appreciate those parishioners who shared their thoughts during our Sunday morning "Stewardship Moments:" Ed Ing, Michael Dugger, Norma Ricketts, and Helen Mosher. Your powerful witness was inspiring!

Special thanks to the members of the Stewardship Committee for all their hard work: Behn Ayala, Maria Bottlick, Cricket Camp, Maria Macfarlane, Grace Robbins, and John Bolin Shellito. It's not easy to carry out this initiative in the middle of a pandemic, but you did it!

Maria Bottlick shares this lovely Prayer for Generosity:

O gracious God,

You who do generously lavish our lives with riches of the spirit, create in my heart deep wells of gratitude that I may share freely of my treasures. Remind me daily how abundant are the gifts You have given me, that I may give without counting the cost, and sacrifice myself with no thought of reward other than the knowledge that I have done Your will.

This I ask in Jesus' name.

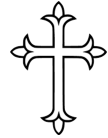
Amen.

Women of St. Barnabas' News

Our only fundraiser in 2021 was the Bake Sale held on November 21, the day of the Annual Meeting. It was a success, thanks to the scrumptious home baked goodies which were purchased and some VERY generous donations. Our income from this event was \$1,713.50. A huge thank you to all the volunteers who helped to set up, arrange the goodies, and clean up afterwards.

Shirley Newman, WOSB Treasurer

In Memoriam



**Joseph Franklin
(Frank) Donnelly**

December 12, 2021

Fairfax, Virginia

*Rest eternal grant to them,
O Lord; and let light per-
petual shine upon them.
May their souls, and the
souls of all the departed,
through the mercy of God,
rest in peace.
Amen.*

Joined in Holy Matrimony



**Rakhee Sinha
and
Jeff Peyton**

December 4, 2021

*Above all, clothe yourselves
with love, which binds eve-
rything together in perfect
harmony. And let the peace
of Christ rule in your hearts,
to which indeed you were
called in the one body.*

Colossians 3:14-15



February

2/1 Taylor Cannon
 2/3 Maria Bottlick
 2/3 Jordan Riddle
 2/5 Bob Gribbin
 2/6 Marcel Lisi
 2/12 Ann Sayles
 2/13 Karen Steidel
 2/16 Wayne Bottlick
 2/19 Amos Shellito
 2/25 Carolyn McWright
 2/24 Behn Ayala
 2/25 Ginny Dugger
 2/27 Paul Palmer
 2/27 David Steidel

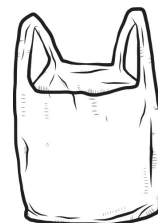
O God, our times are in your hand: Look with favor, we pray, on your servants as they begin another year. Grant that they may grow in wisdom and grace, and strengthen their trust in your goodness all the days of their lives; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen

FACETS Needs Plastic Bags

With the implementation of the recent ordinance in Fairfax County that stores charge a 5 cent surcharge on plastic bags, we anticipate that fewer people will be getting plastic bags for their shopping these days. While this is great for the environment, it means there will not be a free supply of bags for us to offer the homeless to carry their hot dinners and extra items, like water and diapers.

So if you are hoarding a supply of plastic bags, please donate them to FACETS! There will be a box in the narthex, near the food collections baskets. We prefer the size that grocery stores give out, but can use any that are not much larger or smaller than those. If anyone has a good idea on how to inexpensively substitute for the plastic bags, we are happy to hear it.

Molly Newling
 FACETS Co-Chair



Although many years have passed since Bob's retirement and death, his family found most heartening the very thoughtful gesture of naming a room after him. He evidently lives on in the hearts of many and that is so good to know.

Thank you so much.
 Joy

Men's Group

The Men's Group will meet for a Men's Breakfast on Saturday, February 5 at 8 AM at the Juke Box Diner, 7039 Columbia Pike, Annandale. All men of the parish and their guests are welcome to attend. For more information please contact the Parish Office.

Birthdays

We include a list of birthdays in each issue of the Reporter. Please make sure your information in Realm (our parish database) is up-to-date.

If you have not yet logged into your Realm account, please consider doing so: Call or email the Parish Office for an "invitation" which will allow you to establish your login credentials. Or, contact the Parish Office directly to have your information updated.



Vestry Class of 2024

We welcome the St. Barnabas' Vestry Class of 2024, elected at the Parish Annual Meeting on November 21, 2021, and starting their terms formally with the January meeting. New members are Sam Batten, Beth Harper, and Shirley Newman. Below is a short introduction to each new member.

I was born in Bramhall, Cheshire, England and was christened and subsequently confirmed in my local parish church, St. Michael's & All Angels. I read (i.e., majored) in European History at Manchester University prior to immigrating to the United States in 1968. To cut a very long story short, I have lived in Massachusetts, Vermont, California, and the Washington DC area.

Shirley Newman



I am very honored to be invited to serve on the Vestry — this will be my second term. I try to contribute to the life of St. Barnabas' by serving as a lector and chaliceist (when we have in-person services), acting as coffee hour host, and have recently taken on the WOSB Treasurer responsibility. My outside activities include volunteering for Pets Bring Joy, a cat rescue organization (I adopted my three fur-babies from them) and, until recently, playing tennis (due to back problems

Beth Harper



I've been a member of St. Barnabas' since 2005. During that time, I've been a choir member and parish musician, a lay Eucharistic minister/visitor, a FACETS volunteer, and a member of many committees. I just wound up two years as Stewardship chair and I'll be St. Barnabas' lay delegate to the annual Diocesan Convention in 2022 and 2023. Working with Mariel York, I facilitated our first Sacred Ground circle in summer 2021 and I'm currently leading our Education for Ministry seminar group. I'm excited about serving on the Vestry and look forward to helping St. Barnabas' emerge from the pandemic as a stronger and more vital parish.

Sam Batten

I have attended St. Barnabas' for over twenty-five years. One of the programs that is still an annual event (in non-pandemic times) that I started when my daughter was in J2A is Breakfast with Santa Claus.

I find my current job working in the IT field very rewarding.

St. Barnabas' Vestry - Classes of 2022, 2023

Class of 2022 Behn Ayala, Sheena Friend, Dawn Schaefer

Class of 2023 Norma Ricketts, Ellen Riddle (Senior Warden), Larry Stark (Junior Warden)

Annandale Christian Community for Action (ACCA) News

Thank you to everyone who donated to ACCA during the recent Challenge Campaign. Your gifts will help ACCA respond to requests for emergency assistance to our vulnerable neighbors for rent, utilities, other urgent needs, emergency food deliveries and furniture.



Donations to ACCA also help support the ACCA Child Development Center, which provides high quality childcare to children 3 months to 6 years old.

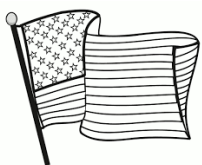
St. Barnabas' is scheduled to serve in the ACCA Furniture Ministry on Saturday morning February 12. Volunteers deliver furniture to needy households and pick up donations of gently used furniture. Volunteers report at 8 a.m. to the furniture warehouse on the grounds of Annandale United Methodist Church at 6935 Columbia Pike, Annandale.

Save the Date – the Rebuilding Together National Rebuilding Day is planned for April 30. Rebuilding Together-Arlington-Fairfax-Falls Church remains hopeful that the home repair workday can go on safely for volunteers and homeowners. ACCA plans to sponsor repairs for two houses if the workday proceeds, and St. Barnabas' has pledged funds and volunteers. Future *Reporters* and weekly announcements will provide updates.

ACCA's Neighbor to Neighbor program (formerly the Homework Club) is continuing to assist Afghan families who arrived in the area in the past few years. Volunteers and families met in person several times in the Fall. An Afghan consultant offers weekend English classes via Zoom, and volunteers are facilitating Sunday morning conversation classes. The ACCA Neighbor to Neighbor planning team has helped some newly-arrived Afghan families who need assistance with household items, from furniture to laptops. Resettlement agency caseloads in the DC metro area are at capacity and the agencies have not been able to help newly arrived families who left the military bases before assignment to an agency. ACCA is one of many groups working to help welcome families and support the work of the agencies. Four ACCA churches participate in the planning team, and the group would welcome other church involvement.

The ACCA Food Pantry provides a week's groceries and hygiene supplies to people who have urgent needs. Fairfax County social services workers make most referrals. In addition to donations of food and hygiene items, the ministry needs volunteers to deliver groceries, to pack items for delivery, and to coordinate drivers to make deliveries. St. Barnabas' also supports the Heritage Food Site operated at the Annandale United Methodist Church Mission Center on Heritage Drive. We need a volunteer to take donated groceries from St. Barnabas to the food site on a regular basis.

Office Hours, Holiday Schedule, and Reporter Deadline



The deadline for the March/April 2022 issue of *The St. Barnabas' Reporter* is Tuesday, February 15th. 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.

Office hours: Monday through Thursday from 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.; Friday the Parish Administrator works from home. *Please note:* The office will be closed Monday, February 21st for the Presidents' Day holiday.

Annandale Safe Youth Project (ASYP)

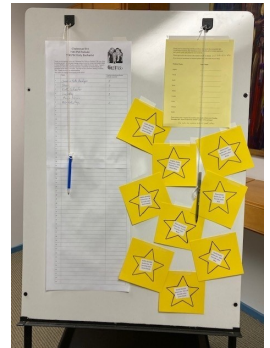
Thanksgiving for the Holiday Gifts of Winter Wear and a New Tutor Coordinator for This Spring and Summer

Nine Annandale Safe Youth Project students have new winter coats, hats, and gloves this winter, thanks to the generosity of St. Barnabas' members. The winter wear was presented to the students at their Holiday Party on December 22nd. While the celebration had to be scaled back this year due to COVID – no Santa visit, and no parishioners helping out – still, the students were served a festive meal, enjoyed holiday games and activities, and opened gifts. A special thank you to Molly Newling who provided decorations for the party, and to Ken & Camille Mittelholtz who set up the St. Barnabas' table-top tree for the event, as well as all the individuals and families who provided warm winter clothing.

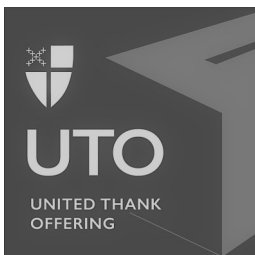
As of the writing of this article, the program currently is on hiatus due to the high COVID infection rates.

However, plans are underway to kick start a return to some additional, more personal support for our ASYP students this spring and summer. Randy Jones is willing to serve as Tutor Coordinator for some catch-up camps this spring and summer. Randy graduated from George Mason University with a bachelors in biology. In the summer of 2019 Randy ran the St. Barnabas' math camp, and served as a regular tutor until COVID hit. Randy is committed to strengthening the students' math skills through catch-up camps, and also help with homework when they return to in person meetings.

It is a privilege for St. Barnabas' to support and assist the Annandale Safe Youth Project and the students it serves. If you would like more information about ASYP or its sponsoring organization, Second Story, please feel free to visit their website [Home - Second Story \(second-story.org\)](https://second-story.org) or contact the Parish Office. Your prayers for the ASYP students and the program as a whole are welcomed and appreciated!



United Thank Offering



Dear St Barnabas',

Thanking all who participated in the UTO Ingathering on Dec. 12, 2021. Donations are in the process of being counted and if you, like many of us, were overwhelmed by events and unable to turn in your donation, feel free to do so by the end of January. Yours in Thanksgiving,

Cricket

Bishop Transition Update from the Diocese of Virginia

from Diocesan e-Communiqué January 14, 2022

The [Transition Committee](#) has begun its work to welcome a new Bishop Diocesan. Chaired by Carlo Uchello of St. Luke's Alexandria, the Committee has formed a number of subcommittees to arrange different aspects of [the transition](#).



Next Steps

The Search Committee plans to release the slate of candidates in late March 2022. Following the petition period, the Transition Committee will hold Meet and Greet sessions with the candidates throughout the Diocese in mid to late May 2022.

The Electing Convention will be held on June 4, 2022, and the consecration and ordination of our new bishop diocesan, with Presiding Bishop Michael Curry presiding, will be held at 11:00 a.m. on December 3, 2022. *Location for the consecration and ordination has not yet been announced.*

The Transition Committee's early planning work is taking into account the possibility that COVID restrictions may still be in place for many of the scheduled milestones in the transition process and that alternatives to in-person meetings might be necessary. Additional details will be provided as the Committee's work proceeds.

To learn more, visit www.virginiabishopsearch.org, where you will also find the Search Profile in English, Spanish and Korean

You can sign up for the e-Communiqué and receive directly to your inbox a monthly e-newsletter from the Diocese, including bishop's announcements, updates about diocesan events and good news from other churches. The Diocese also uses this list to distribute timely updates regarding important announcements and events.

The link is on the diocesan website, [E-Communique | The Episcopal Diocese of Virginia \(thediocese.net\)](http://E-Communique | The Episcopal Diocese of Virginia (thediocese.net)).

Phishing Scam Attempts

As of mid-January, a number of parishioners are still being contacted by one or more individuals purporting to be the Rev. John Bolin Shellito, presumably to steal money. While the email might say it is from "the Rev. John Bolin Shellito", the actual email address is not the official stbarnabasrector@outlook.com email address. Coming from a variety of email addresses, the message often suggests that I am busy, in a rush, or otherwise going into an "important meeting". Sometimes there is a subsequent request for gift cards, perhaps even for photos of gift cards. Please note that it is not the policy of the Rector, Parish Administrator, or church to ask for gift cards, and should there be a dire financial need, it will not be communicated through an individual email.

If any email looks suspicious, please call the parish office at 703-941-2922 or the emergency pastoral care number, 571-402-2218, to verify.

While this attempted criminal activity is harmful and detracts from the mission and calling of the church to be Christ's body in the world, there are opportunities to seek out silver linings in the midst of this present difficulty. If anything, these challenges have made me even more thankful for the good work that we have been able to continue to do together. Keep the faith!

Christmas at the Episcopal Church of St. John the Baptist

by Len Leroy and Ed Ing on behalf of the Cuban Mission Team

Thanks to the generosity of St. Barnabas', our sister parish in Palma Soriano, Cuba, Saint John the Baptist, was able to have a Christmas dinner for the congregation. With the current shortages in Cuba, worship followed by a meal heightened the festivities. The dinner featured ham and chorizo sausage that was sent by St. Barnabas', as well as local produce. Noel sent us his thanks and a photo of his kitchen crew.



Volunteers preparing Christmas dinner for St. John's congregation

Hypothermia Shelter Meals 2022 ▪ February 27- March 5

St. Barnabas' tradition of contributing a week of meals for the hypothermia shelter is continuing this year, from February 27 through March 5. Appropriately enough, our week includes Mardi Gras and Ash Wednesday. We will be providing hot meals for 50 guests, as well as breakfast bags for each day. Like last year, dishes are to be prepared at home and dropped off at church, ready to serve. They will be delivered to the shelter by parish volunteers. Stay tuned for an opportunity to sign up and bring food to those in need!

Cindy McLaughlin
tenorperson@aol.com

With Grateful Hearts

To all of St. Barnabas' members, we staff would like to thank you for your most generous gifts at Christmas-time. Wishing each of you a happy, healthy, safe, and blessed 2021!

Gratefully,
John+, Maria, Delilah, James, and Catherine

Welcoming Lana Nadia Zanin

Welcome to Lana Nadia Zanin, daughter of Martin & Tanja Zanin and granddaughter of Mark & Colleen Zanin, who was born on Thursday, November 4, 2021.



Thanks and More Thanks...

- For those who provided coats, hats, scarves, and gloves for our ASYP students this holiday season, and those who provided decorations and help in setting up for the party, especially Molly Newling and Ken & Camille Mittelholtz.
- For the Finance Committee's care and attentiveness to detail.
- For the Regathering Committee's guidance in keeping our church as safe as possible in the midst of Omicron.
- For Catherine Dubas and her excellent administration of many time-sensitive matters.
- For Shirley Newman for her proofreading and suggestions.
- For all those who volunteer to help in the Parish Office, including Ann Sayles, George Sinclair, Wayne Bottlick, Connie & Peter Badger, and Molly Newling.
- For the Vestry and leadership of St. Barnabas', holding fast to an inspiring vision of our response to the living God here in northern Virginia.
- For the Music Ministry and liturgists who have helped to keep worship going through the pandemic.
- For the opportunities St. Barnabas' gives us to help and support one another in Christ.

In the Presence of God

We pray for God's strength and healing for ... Jonathan Barber, Bernard Blair, Emma Blevins, Jean Anne Braddon, Charles Camp, Margot Donnelly, Rotha Frye, Preston George, Lee Gibbs, James Harris, Roger Hefferan, Sharon Jones, Alusine Kanu, Carolyn Lilienthal, Joy Lyles, Tom Lyles, Bob Macfarlane, Maria Macfarlane, Cindy McLaughlin, Helen Mosher, Aliyah Phillips, Beth Phillips, Anne Radway, Grace Rampersaud, Norma Ricketts, Barbara Rigden, Ann Sayles, Frank Spink, David Steidel, Karen Steidel, Mareea Wilson, Dana Wiseman, Ann Woodle, and Addison Yeaman.

For the Church ... the Archbishop of Canterbury, Justin Welby; our Presiding Bishop, the Most Rev. Michael Bruce Curry; and our Diocesan Bishops, the Rt. Rev. Susan Ellyn Goff, the Rt. Rev. Jennifer Brooke-Davidson, the Rt. Rev. Porter Taylor, the Rt. Rev. Ted Gulick, and the Rt. Rev. David Colin Jones 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.

Update Your Preferences

Please help us keep our database up to date by notifying the Parish Office if your contact information changes. Likewise, if you would like to unsubscribe from this newsletter or weekly emails please let us know: 703-941-2922 or stbarenabaschurch@outlook.com.

KIDS COLORING PAGE





**ST. BARNABAS'
EPISCOPAL CHURCH**

4801 Ravensworth Road
Annandale, VA 22003

Phone: 703-941-2922

E-mail:

stbarnabaschurch@outlook.com

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Change Service Requested

We're on the Web!

www.st-barnabaschurch.org

Church services are to be livestreamed via YouTube unless otherwise indicated.

Bishop's Visitation ▪ February 20, 2022

10:15 AM Holy Eucharist

The Rt. Reverend Porter Taylor

Assisting Bishop

Hypothermia Shelter Meals ▪ February 27-March 5, 2022

Ash Wednesday ▪ March 2, 2022

12:00 noon and 7:30 PM

Palm Sunday ▪ April 10, 2022

Easter ▪ April 17, 2022