

September 2022

The St. Barnabas' Reporter



Celebrating 60 Years of St. Barnabas' Episcopal Church in Annandale

The Rev. John Bolin Shellito
Rector

Dear Church Family,

You are hereby invited to a long-awaited event in the life of St. Barnabas'. I'm not just talking about the Homecoming Weekend in general, where we'll have a chance to celebrate the 60th Anniversary of St. Barnabas' Episcopal Church here in Annandale. I'm not just talking about our TGIF gathering to kick off the weekend that Friday. I'm not just talking about our 60th Anniversary Celebrations of Eucharist at 8 a.m. and 10:15 a.m. I'm not just talking about the Stories of St. Barnabas, with our special Luncheon to follow. I'm talking about the finale, where you, yes you, dear reader, will have your own chance to personally dunk the Rector, at a low low cost of one can of beans per throw, with all the cans to be donated to the food pantry afterward.

Just imagine all the life frustrations that can be sublimated in that moment. Yes, it will be fun to reflect together on years gone by, and marvel at how fast the decades have gone. Yes, it will be fun to learn something new about St. Barnabas' legacy, even as we seek to carry it forward. Yes, it will be fun to start off the program year with some celebrations. But most of all, I hope that dunking the Rector can be a positive reminder that sometimes God's "kingdom logic" doesn't always fit with our usual expectations for how the world works. In Christ, God is often actually inverting our expectations, bringing new life into spaces and relationships in unexpected ways. And my hope and prayer for the next sixty years is that our St. Barnabas' congregation can continue to be a place where Christ is active in our midst and where the inspiration of the Holy Spirit can be recognized, appreciated, and followed, in whatever mysterious, surprising, (and hopefully also humorous) directions it may lead.

With gratitude for the many gifts shared by our St. Barnabas' congregation, across northern Virginia and across the decades—

John+

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

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

- *60th Anniversary*
- *A "Note" from David Palmer*
- *Do Not Be Afraid*
- *Children's Chapel*
- *TGIF Is Back!*
- *Parish Retreat*
- *EfM Resumes*
- *Coffee Hour Hosts*
- *Creating Something New*
- *Iglesia San Juan Bautista*
- *Diocesan News*
- *General Convention*
- *Vestry Stewardship Statement*

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**St. Barnabas'
Episcopal Church**

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

Parish Staff

The Rev. John Bolin Shellito
Rector

David Palmer
Music Minister

Catherine Dubas
Parish Administrator

Maria Bottlick
Bookkeeper

James Harris, *Sexton*

Delilah Stearns, *Nursery*

Randall Jones
ASYP Tutor Coordinator

Vestry & Parish Officers

Ellen Riddle
Senior Warden

Larry Stark
Junior Warden

John Westerlund
Treasurer

PJ Kennedy
Assistant Treasurer

Ann Sayles
Register

Behn Ayala

Sam Batten

Sheena Friend

Beth Harper

Shirley Newman

Norma Ricketts

Dawn Schaefer

—
Catherine Dubas
Newsletter Editor

***Sunday
Worship Schedule***

8 a.m. Holy Eucharist

10:15 a.m. Holy Eucharist

Help us Celebrate St. Barnabas' 60th Anniversary! Formal Invitation on Page 7

by Ann Sayles

We are planning a weekend of remembrance and celebration of 60 years of ministry as St. Barnabas' Episcopal Church. The intended schedule includes:

Friday, September 16

- 6-8 PM TGIF gathering at the home of the Bolin Shellitos *Bring a side, drink, or dessert to share if you like.*

Sunday, September 18

- 8 AM and 10:15 AM Holy Eucharist
- 9:30-10 AM Review and add to the St. Barnabas' timeline by decade
- 11:30-12:30 PM Stories of St. Barnabas', Games for Young Children, and Walking the Labyrinth
- 12:30-1:30 PM Parish Luncheon *You are invited to bring a side dish, dessert, or drink to go with the provided main dish.*
- 1:30-2 PM Dunk the Rector

Vestry Highlights - August 2022

- Len LeRoy, Ed Ing and Norma Ricketts presented an overview of St. Barnabas' relationship to our sister parish in Cuba, Iglesia Episcopal San Juan Bautista in Palma Soriano, Cuba.
- The Vestry approved a motion to contribute \$40,000 to San Juan Bautista to be used for the purchase of a house that will provide much needed space for the parish.
- The Vestry plans to appoint a Cuban Mission Committee that will assist with St. Barnabas' continued sponsorship of the parish and will coordinate future fundraising activities.
- Plans for St. Barnabas' 60th Anniversary Celebration for September 16 – 18 are underway. Plans include a TGIF at the Shellito's, a gathering for reflections and memories of St. B. on Sat. (with refreshments); and a luncheon following the 10:15 service with games and "Dunk the Rector". Invitations will be issued to all parishioners as well as those who no longer attend services with us but are an important part of our parish history.

Ann Wentworth Sayles, Register

A “Note” from David Palmer: Listening

by David Palmer, Music Minister

It was the feast of Pentecost, and Father John captured my imagination when he spoke about love languages in connection with the disciples speaking in multiple languages on the birth of the church. In my own words, God gave the disciples the gift of speaking the languages of their listeners as a gesture of love. God cares for us so much that, rather than insist that we learn a particular language, God speaks to us in one we can understand. This applies to us in that it's not enough for one to declare their love language; someone – you? – has to learn it and use it in order for them to feel loved.

But there is another side to this proposition: someone has to listen. We know that God listens, but isn't it nice when one of God's children listens to us, too? As someone who has spent countless hours alone playing music, I can say with some authority that it's a different matter when a body is in the room listening. Granted, I might get self-conscious and make more mistakes, but, when someone listens, there is the possibility of connection, that maybe all the yearning, joy, tension, peace, and exhilaration that I'm pouring into my music is being heard by someone. Without a listener, all of our speaking or music-making is only so much shouting or fiddling in the wind.

You can imagine how important listening is to every musician and every music lover. I was a music listener before I was a music player, and, even when my days of playing are over, I'll probably be listening—if my hearing isn't gone. One of my favorite things to do, usually at night, is to put on some headphones/earbuds and listen as deeply as I can. Even a simple pop song that I've heard 19 times can yield discoveries. *I hear a trombone. Is that a second guitar part? I hadn't noticed that before. The piano seems more prominent during the verses. Is there reverb on just the voice? Is one of the bass player's strings out of tune?* Try it sometime.

I was meditating on this when, after a staff meeting, I noticed a pile of books called Listening Heart in the St. Barnabas Library. (I'm wondering if this is or was a book being studied by EfM or some other group at church.) Do you listen to God deeply, as deep as your heart? Harriet Tubman listened to God as she led enslaved people to freedom, and none of her passengers on the underground railroad were caught. But how about people? Do you listen to them with your heart? There was an expression that my mother and some others were using some 40 years ago, “listening people into wholeness,” or something like that. The idea is that many people are so longing to be deeply heard that giving them one's full attention has a healing effect.

When you talk to someone, do you get cues from them that they are or are not listening? I've noticed in a small percentage of people (they make good therapists) a certain stillness in their facial expression while I'm talking, and it changes when it's their turn to speak. Eye contact and occasional nodding can be signs that someone is listening. Good

(continued on next page)

Recently Relocated



**Connie & Peter
Badger**

3091 Mill Vista Rd,
Unit #1202
Highlands Ranch CO
80129

Prayer for a New School Year

O Eternal God, bless all schools, colleges, and universities, that they may be lively centers for sound learning, new discovery, and the pursuit of wisdom; and grant that those who teach and those who learn may find you to be the source of all truth; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

BCP p. 824



September

9/1 Christopher Greer
 9/1 Timothy Greer
 9/7 Fiona Agnew
 9/8 Carolyn Horn
 9/9 Aliyah Phillips
 9/11 Aaron Moore
 9/15 Cyrus Elliott
 9/20 Erin Testa-Lowrey
 9/21 Doug Merchant
 9/21 Ellen Riddle
 9/22 Haley Bolin Shellito
 9/23 Frank Spink
 9/23 Jack Verstandig
 9/24 Megumi McKeever
 9/24 Barbara Rigden
 9/26 Camille Mittelholtz
 9/28 Dick Crutchley
 9/28 Janice Carroll
 9/30 Mareea Wilson

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. BCP p. 830

Listening *(continued from p. 3)*

listeners listen as much as they talk and ask good questions. Asking good questions is a skill that we can learn, like learning someone's love language.

What about listening to the music of nature? Try deeply listening to the birds in your environment. As I write this, we are in that time of year when katydids are chorusing at night. I find their sound to be soothing—to the extent that I can block out the sound of air conditioning, helicopters, traffic, sirens, etc. Maybe someday, we can do some intentional music- or people- or nature-listening as a church family. For now, I'll sign off the same way I sign off from my radio show, just before saying good night: "Thanks for listening."

Vestry Highlights - June 2022

- Homecoming/60th Anniversary Sunday will be September 18. We will also begin our program year this day, with the resumption of Sunday School, Adult Forum, and Choirs.
- Financial activities have been quiet these past months, as is expected during the summer.
- The Vestry voted to approve additional vacation days for our Parish Administrator for leave earned but not taken in previous years.
- Funds were approved to support an overhaul and upgrade of our parish website.

Ann Wentworth Sayles, Register

Update Your Preferences

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

Birthdays

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



2023 Stewardship - Do Not Be Afraid

by Behn Ayala, Stewardship Chair



September 15, 2022

Dear St. Barnabas',

The Diocese of Virginia has designated the theme for this year's Stewardship Campaign as "DO NOT BE AFRAID!" And we won't be afraid! Through Jesus, we have survived so much—the Pandemic, racial injustice, the loss of loved ones—and yet, St. Barnabas' and its ministries endure and are thriving. God is calling us to move away from fear, and support each other and our ministries with love, prayer, time, talent, and resources.

In October, we'll be mailing out pledge cards. Please prayerfully consider how you can best contribute.

We'll also be hosting "Stewardship Ministry Minutes" in October and November to inspire you further.

Thank you ahead of time for your prayers and generosity!

Faithfully,

The Stewardship Committee

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

Women of St. Barnabas' (WOSB)

The Women of St. Barnabas' (WOSB) resumes their monthly business meetings on Tuesday, September 13th at 10:00 a.m. in the Richardson Room. The Barnabees crafting group will meet on Thursday, September 15th at 10:00 a.m.. The WOSB provide support for family and friends by hosting receptions following funerals. The group also has typically hosted a Christmas Bazaar, Mardi Gras Party, and Mad Hatter's Tea.

These events provide wonderful opportunities for fellowship and also raise funds which the WOSB use to support a variety of inreach and outreach ministries. Donations from the WOSB have included the Rector's Discretionary Fund, FACETS, ACCA Challenge Campaign, Heritage Food Site, Annandale Safe Youth Project (ASYP), Boys' Home of Virginia, Good News Jail Ministry, Jackson-Field Homes, and the J2A Pilgrimage, to name a few. Please contact WOSB President Mary Yeaman for more information.

Annandale Christian Community for Action (ACCA) News & Opportunities

The Annandale CROP Hunger Walk will be on Saturday October 15 at Lake Accotink Park. Registration starts at 8 a.m. We welcome walkers and donations to support St. Barnabas' team members. To register to walk or to donate online, please see: <https://events.crophungerwalk.org/2022/team/st-barnabas-episcopal>. You can also donate by check payable to CWS/CROP or to St. Barnabas (designate CROP Walk in the memo line of your check).



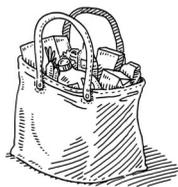
The Walk raises funds for Church World Service (CWS) and ACCA. CWS partners with other organizations around the world to fight against the challenges of disease, disaster, displacement, and other concerns that leave people hungry. CWS recently provided emergency blankets, hygiene kits, and cleanup buckets to tornado victims in Kentucky; supported a community center in Moldova for refugee children from Ukraine and gave emergency funds for the families it helps; supported educational programs and provided seeds and tools for farmers in Cambodia; and supported refugees at camps in Tanzania.

Rebuilding Together Arlington/Fairfax/Falls Church is planning a fall workday, and ACCA plans to sponsor a home repair project. Volunteers are needed, but the workday is likely to be October 1, which coincides with our annual Parish Retreat weekend. If you know a low-income homeowner who needs help with safety and home repair, Ken or Camille can provide information on how to apply.

The ACCA Furniture Ministry will resume Saturday morning deliveries of furniture to families in need as well as pickups of donations on September 10. We will need volunteers for St. Barnabas' crew. If you can help, please watch weekly announcements and/or contact Ken to learn St. Barnabas' schedule.

To volunteer or for more information about ACCA, the CROP Walk or Rebuilding Together, please contact Ken or Camille Mittelholtz or the Parish Office.

Heritage Mission Center



The Heritage Mission Center Food Site at 7901 Heritage Drive distributes groceries, diapers, and feminine hygiene products on Thursday evenings from 5-6 PM. Donations can be left in the blue box in the St. Barnabas' narthex. The center serves about 300 families per week.

The Center needs help on Thursdays to pack bags, unload deliveries, and distribute food. You can volunteer to help via their sign-up at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090b49aaab2aabf49-aumc>. The deadline for signing up is noon.

The Center is a mission of Annandale United Methodist Church, which partners with St. Barnabas' and other area organizations to serve our neighbors in need. *Sevatruck* distributes burritos on Mondays at the Site (5-6 p.m.). FACETS distributes diapers on selected Tuesday evenings (advance registration with Opportunity Neighborhood/FACETS is required).

For any questions please contact Camille or Ken Mittelholtz or the Parish Office.

**Celebrating of 60 Years of Ministry
in Annandale, Virginia**

**St. Barnabas' Episcopal Church
September 16-18, 2022**

The Collect for St. Barnabas

Grant, O God, that we may follow the example of your faithful servant Barnabas, who, seeking not his own renown but the well-being of your Church, gave generously of his life and substance for the relief of the poor and the spread of the Gospel; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Intended Schedule

Friday, September 16th

6-8 PM TGIF at the Home of Haley and John+ Bolin Shellito

RSVP to John+ or the Parish Office, and bring a side, drink, or dessert to share if you like.

Sunday, September 18th

8 AM and 10:15 AM Holy Eucharist

9:30-10 AM Revisiting St. Barnabas' history
(Richardson Room)

11:30-12:30 Stories of St. Barnabas' and
Walking the Labyrinth

12:30-1:30 PM Parish Luncheon

You are invited to bring a side dish, dessert, or drink to go with the provided main dish.

1:30-2 PM Dunk the Rector

So that we might adequately prepare, please RSVP to the Parish Office
by 12 noon on Monday, September 12th.

Children's Chapel Enjoys Summer, Looks Forward to Fall

by Haley Bolin Shellito

Children's Chapel continued over the summer, giving our youngest parishioners a chance to engage with our Bible stories and faith tradition in a way that is accessible and meaningful to them. We learned about the labyrinth, putting our treasures in Heaven, and loving our neighbors. When the weather has permitted, we've enjoyed learning together on the Peace Patio, surrounded by the beautiful flowers, birds, and other sights and sounds of creation.

We are looking forward to fall! Children's Chapel is open to children of all ages and meets during the first half of the 10:15 a.m. service except on holiday weekends. Older students are welcome to join as helpers. If we are not on the Peace Patio, we will be in the Lyles Room. For any questions, contact Haley Bolin Shellito or Theresa Merchant. We hope to see you there!



TGIF is Back!

Come relax and celebrate the end of the work week with the St. Barnabas' community! We had a great time at our July and August gatherings. If you haven't yet made it out to a TGIF Gathering, we hope you can join us on September 16th for a special TGIF to kick off the parish's 60th Anniversary Weekend. All ages are invited, and feel free to bring a dish or drink to share. For September, we will gather again at John+ and Haley Bolin Shellito's home. To RSVP or for more information, reach out to John+ or the Parish Office. If you are interested in hosting a TGIF in the future, either at your home or at the church, please reach out to Haley.



Parish Retreat Registrations Are Open—Come to Shrine Mont!



The theme of our Parish Retreat this fall is “Our Journey to Racial and Social Justice,” with presentations and discussion led by former parishioners Mareea Wilson and Monnie Riggin, and programming for Children and Youth led by our Sunday School team. The retreat will be **Friday, September 30-Sunday, October 2, 2022** at our Diocesan retreat center, Shrine Mont, in Orkney Springs, VA. The weekend offers thought-provoking sessions, uplifting music, great food, beautiful scenery, free time for shopping, hiking, etc. – and most of all, time to get closer to God and one another. You will return refreshed and renewed!

Registration is open and encouraged; fees remain the same as last year. Please send payment along with your completed registration form. Forms are available in the hallway or from the Parish Office.

Shrine Mont is in Orkney Springs, VA, about a two-hour drive from the Washington, D.C. Metro area. For more information on Shrine Mont, see their website at <http://shrinemont.com/>. For questions feel free to contact Ann Sayles or the Parish Office

EfM to Begin September 15th

The Education for Ministry (EfM) group will begin on Thursday, September 15th for the fall session. Meetings are weekly from 7-9 PM via Zoom. For questions, please contact Beth Harper or the Parish Office.

Men's Group

The Men's Group meets for a Men's Breakfast on the first Saturday of each month. The September date is Saturday the 3rd. We meet 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.

Do You Enjoy Coffee Hour? Volunteer to Host!

A small group of volunteers has been hosting Coffee Hour on the Peace Patio after the 10:15 a.m. service. We would like to continue serving coffee and cold drinks in the early fall, weather permitting. Additional hosts for Coffee Hour are needed! If you would like to help, please let Camille Mittelholtz or the Parish Office know.

Reporter Deadline, Office Hours, and Schedule

The deadline for the October 2022 issue of *The St. Barnabas' Reporter* is **Thursday, September 8**. Note: the deadline has been moved up in order to accommodate the office schedule: our Parish Administrator will be out the last two weeks of September. Please submit announcements and/or photos to the Parish Office at stbarnabaschurch@outlook.com. Hard copies of announcements and/or photos are welcome, as well.

Regular Office hours are Monday through Thursday from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. The Parish Administrator works remotely on Fridays. The office will be closed on Monday, September 5th for the Labor Day holiday. Please call John+ on his cell phone or at the emergency pastoral care number if any urgent concerns arise when the office is closed.

ASYP News

This summer, the Annandale Safe Youth Project (ASYP) program visited Pirates Cove, a Fairfax County Park Authority water park, and got a chance to catch some sun. On August 18th we held a graduation party for the 6th graders who are leaving the program. Now we are in the process of getting back packs and other school supplies ready for the new school year

If anyone has some spare bicycle helmets we could use some. Miss Cat who works for Second Story has found a new job opportunity in California and will be leaving us shortly. I'm sure the kids are going to miss her! We hope for a new coordinator by the time school begins.

Randy Jones, ASYP Tutor Coordinator

Creating Something New in COVID-Time

I spotted a cute chapel about a block from my son's home near Seattle on a visit this summer. I learned that it was built during COVID for drive-by communion.—Len LeRoy



In the Presence of God

We pray for God's strength and healing for ... Jonathan Barber, Bernard Blair, Emma Blevins, Maggie Bottlick, Jean Anne Braddon, Charles Camp, Cricket 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, Cindy McLaughlin, Helen Mosher, Shirley Newman, Beth Phillips, Anne Radway, Grace Rampersaud, Norma Ricketts, Barbara Rigden, Mary Riggs, Ann Sayles, Frank Spink, Karen Steidel, Mareea Wilson, Dana Wiseman, Ann Woodle, and Mary Yeaman.

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

Report on Iglesia Episcopal San Juan Bautista

by Len LeRoy

Feeding Shut-ins in Cuba

The newly-ordained Rev. Santos, Rector of our sister church in Cuba, Iglesia Episcopal San Juan Bautista, recently put together a kitchen at the church using a mix of equipment that St. Barnabas' donated, equipment purchased with funds from us, and equipment from his own home. We can no longer have food delivered to him as we have in the past because the country's infrastructure cannot support delivery. Instead, Noel+ buys what food is available locally with funds from St. Barnabas' which members of the parish use to prepare food for shut-ins.



Far left: Parish kitchen
Left: Xiomara, a parishioner, preparing meals for two shut-ins, and Luis, who delivers the meals.

Vacation Bible School

San Juan Bautista recently finished their Vacation Bible School program. The day when they had planned on going to the beach the bus did not show up, probably due to the ongoing fuel shortage. Instead, they used the baseball gear that we took on our last visit for a fun day in the park. Noel sent these photos. If you look down the third base line in the baseball photo you can see a horse grazing. That's a reliable form of transportation!



Diocesan News

The Rt. Rev. Susan E. Goff, Bishop Suffragan and Ecclesiastical Authority, announces with thanksgiving the appointment of the Rt. Rev. Paul Bayes, retired Bishop of Liverpool, as a Visiting Bishop in the Diocese of Virginia. Bishop Bayes will serve in the Diocese from mid-September through December 5, 2022. His wife Kate will accompany him.

Bishop Bayes has been a frequent visitor to the Diocese of Virginia for many years in his role with the Triangle of Hope. The Triangle of Hope is a covenantal community between the Dioceses of Liverpool (England), Kumasi (Ghana), and Virginia dedicated to transforming the long history and continuing presence of slavery in our world through repentance, reconciliation and mission.

Bishop Goff served as a Visiting Bishop to the Diocese of Liverpool from 2015 through 2019. She visited for two or three weeks each year in such ministries as speaking at a clergy conference, leading a pre-ordination retreat, meeting with women clergy, preaching at the Cathedral and sharing in services of Confirmation. "I am delighted that we now bring this dimension of our relationship full circle as Bishop Bayes joins in our ministries for a season," Bishop Goff said. "I look forward to seeing how the Holy Spirit will continue to lead and guide us in this time."

Bishop Bayes will provide vital support to the Diocese through visitations to churches, diocesan gatherings and other ministries of the Episcopate.

Thanks and More Thanks...

- For everyone participating in the Sacred Ground discussions this summer.
- For everyone considering participating in our Shrine Mont Retreat, focused on racial and social justice.
- For everyone keeping St. Barnabas' going strong through the summer.
- For the Vestry in particular.
- For the St. Barnabas' Officers in particular.
- For the St. Barnabas' Staff in particular.
- For everyone who has been a part of strengthening our ministry relationship with our sister parish, San Juan Bautista in Palma Soriano.

Ryders' Rounders Offers New Beginner Class

Tired of isolation and inactivity? Learn to dance!

Basic Waltz class is forming on Sunday, September 11th here at St. Barnabas', with teachers Berni & Ken Ryder. Fliers are available at church. For more information please call the Parish Office.

News from General Convention

by Len LeRoy

This summer, July 7 through 10, I was fortunate to be able to serve as a volunteer at the Episcopal Church's 80th triennial General Convention in Baltimore. What I experienced there made me proud to be an Episcopalian and hopeful for the future of the Church.

My primary job was to hand out and collect the devices and headsets through which non-English speaking delegates received their simultaneous translation. That left me with a lot of time to appreciate what was going on. I was in the House of Delegates where four lay people and four clergy from each diocese (802 total delegates) discuss and vote on Resolutions. The President of the House of Delegates, the Rev. Gay Clark Jennings, conducted the sessions with grace, humor, and wisdom. This was her last Convention after 10 years, and it is clear that she has been a real gift to the Church.

I was particularly encouraged by the diversity/inclusivity in our Church as represented at Convention: more young people (20s & 30s) than I had expected, many non-white people, and both gay and trans clergy. I was optimistic for the future of the Church when I heard discussions on non-standard parishes that are completely online, ones in which the majority of the congregation doesn't care about "Episcopal"—they just like that parish, parishes that are half Lutheran and half Episcopalian, etc. I saw the next generation of our Church there.

Two personal experiences stand out for me. One happened when I stayed late to do an extra shift at the House of Bishops when they had an unscheduled evening meeting. I got hugs from Bishop Dede, my former rector, and from Bishop Griselda, the Bishop of Cuba. Hugs are always a good thing! The other moment that stands out was when I heard a delegate speak about being beaten in an indigenous school (formerly called Indian Schools). There is a big difference between reading about that in an email report of the Convention and being in the same room with her and hearing it in person. The Convention voted unanimously in favor of a Resolution to research the Episcopal Church's complicity in mistreatment of students at indigenous schools. Finding out what happened is the first step toward penitence and atonement.

Volunteering at General Convention was a great experience, and I am already considering going to Louisville, KY in 2024 to do it again. If you are interested, you can fill out a [Volunteer Interest Form](https://episcopalky.wufoo.com/forms/81st-general-convention-volunteer-interest-form/) at <https://episcopalky.wufoo.com/forms/81st-general-convention-volunteer-interest-form/>.



Left: General Convention in session
Above: My red volunteer vest

**Stewardship Statement of the Vestry
St. Barnabas' Episcopal Church**

September 2022

The members of the St. Barnabas' vestry affirm their commitment to and support of the 2022 Stewardship Campaign. We encourage our fellow congregants to respond to the call to further God's kingdom through offerings of time, talent, and treasure.

We believe

As the elected vestry of St. Barnabas' Episcopal Church, we bear witness to the importance of stewardship in our lives. Stewardship is using God's gifts of time, talent, and treasure for the work we have been called to do. We believe that God is the true giver of all, and we are accountable for the gifts entrusted to us. We affirm the Biblical tithe as the time-tested ideal for a Christian practice of generosity. Some of us are tithing now, and some of us are praying and working toward the goal of tithing in the future.

We commit

We will work toward this goal of prayerfully giving ten percent of our income, talent, and time to fulfill our understanding of God's purpose in the world each year. We will share our experience of steadfastly endeavoring to achieve this goal with others.

We commend

We commend this statement of commitment to you, the members of our congregation, and we invite you to join us in prayer for the advance of God's reign.

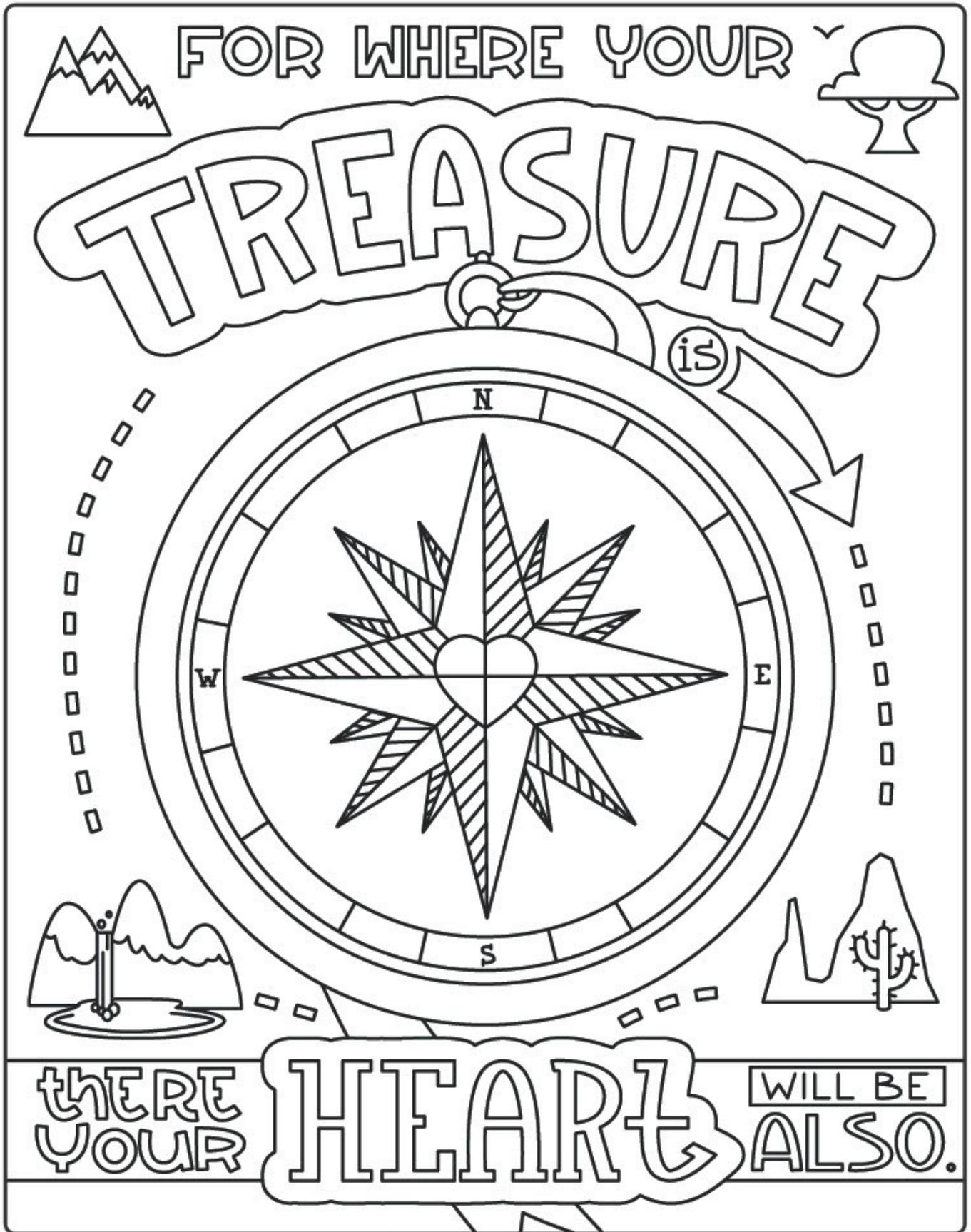
We ask you to join us in moving toward deeper gratitude for God's gifts, deeper celebration of God's profound creative abundance, and deeper awareness of God's presence with us at all times. We invite you to join in the goal of moving toward tithing if tithing is not already an established practice.

We encourage you to join us also in recalling and sharing experiences of giving, compassion, and generosity, that we may be the heart and hands of God in the world.

Signed,

The St. Barnabas' Vestry

KIDS COLORING PAGE





ST. BARNABAS'
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

4801 Ravensworth Road
Annandale, VA 22003

Phone: 703-941-2922
E-mail:
stbarnabaschurch@outlook.com

We're on the Web!

www.st-barnabaschurch.org

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

Change Service Requested

Remembrance Sunday: September 11th

Outdoor Worship at 10:15 a.m. *weather permitting* • Indoor Worship at 8:00 a.m.

Choir & Sunday School Registration and Open House

Homecoming Sunday: September 18th

8:00 and 10:15 a.m. Eucharist

Luncheon and Stories of St. Barnabas' to follow the 10:15 a.m. service

**Celebrating the 60th Anniversary of St. Barnabas'
and the beginning of our Program Year**

See p. 7 for details

Parish Retreat at Shrine Mont: September 30th-October 2nd

Our Journey to Racial and Social Justice

Holy Baptism & St. Francis Sunday: October 9th

**10:15 a.m. Outdoor Worship with Blessing of the Animals *weather permitting*
8:00 a.m. Indoor Worship**