

St. Barnabas' Episcopal
Church

The Parish Pen

Summer 2009

www.stbarnabasde.org

A welcoming community of faith

ANNUAL PARISH PICNIC

June 7th @ 11 AM

Kick off your summer with

FOOD, FUN & FELLOWSHIP

Are you going to the beach, camping, traveling to distant places?

Wear something that reveals your summer plans!

Please bring something to share.....

If your last name starts with A-H, please bring a Dessert

If your last name starts with I-R, please bring Fruit or Green Salad

If your last names starts with S-Z, please bring Pasta Salad.

For questions or to volunteer, please contact: JoAnn Michael @610-268-1384

BISHOP'S ANNUAL VISIT

JUNE 14TH

Bishop Wright will visit St. Barnabas June 14th for Confirmation and for Dedication of the Reverend William B. Merrill Memorial Hall.

There will be a reception for the confirmands and Bishop Wright following the service. The confirmands are: Kaitlyn Elizabeth Engler, Rebecca Irene Engler, Jordan L. Haburcak, Christopher Louis Lopez, Samuel Christian Malusa, Caitlyn Rose Naughton, Thomas Charles Walker and Christian Thomas and Jessica Mae Kanagie.

Congratulations to all.

DEDICATION OF THE REVEREND WILLIAM B. MERRILL MEMORIAL HALL

Also, on June 14th, the new wing of the building will be dedicated to the memory of The Reverend William B. Merrill. More details will be published in the Sunday Bulletin.

Worship Services

Saturday

5:30 pm Holy Eucharist

Sunday

7:30 am

10:00 am

Holy Eucharist

10:00 am

Children's Chapel

Ages 4-10 yrs

Coming Events

Thursday's

6:30 am

Early Risers

Lounge

Thursday, June 4

1:00pm

Prayer Shawl Ministry

Lady Julian's will resume in
September

Sunday, June 7
Annual Parish Picnic

Sunday, June 14

10 am

Confirmation

11 am

Dedication of Rev William
B. Merrill Hall

Blood Pressure Monitoring
will be available on every
first Sunday after the 9:00
am service during the Parish
Breakfast.

Vestry Minutes
May 12, 2009

*****Minutes:

The minutes of the April Vestry meeting were approved as amended.

***** New Vestry Member were welcomed: Chris Slocomb, George McDowell, Ann Lopez and Craig Brosi.

*****Warden's Election—Lori Kramer was elected Senior Warden and Brian Engler was elected Junior Warden.

*****Treasurer's Report/Budget— Jerry Connell is working on mastering the new accounting software and continues to refine the financial reports.

***** Discussion items:

- * Proposed staffing plans
- *HVAC reserve-Jon Hall will secure bids on replacement or repair of water heater.
- *Expansion Project update –We are close to completion and hope to move in soon.
- *New building addition will be dedicated in the memory of Fr. Bill Merrill when the Bishop celebrates confirmation on June 14th.
- *Proposal for new choir room chairs and current status of the organ.
- *Expansion project financing and extended capital campaign efforts.

Next Vestry Meeting—Tuesday, June 9th @ 7pm

BUILDING EXPANSION

Work to expand and remodel the existing first floor lounge has slowed while we await the Certificate of Occupancy from New Castle County. Lack of this document impacts the complete relocation of office furnishings and staff into the new building. The Certificate of Occupancy (C/O) includes the requirement of up-to-date Lines and Grades drawings of the present church property. A recent break in the rainy weather has allowed completion of site surveys of the new bio-retention area features such as layout, elevations and landscape plantings. Lines and Grades drawings were updated, with the latest survey data, and are now in the hands of New Castle County. Our expectations are the C/O will be issued before the end of May. In the meantime, remodeling activity to expand the lounge is underway including new hardwood flooring which is expected to start in the coming week. Downstairs, state fire marshal recommendations to improve the fire safety rating of the multi-purpose room ceiling structure were implemented. Work in the boiler room to tie new piping to the existing hot water system was expanded to meet current regulatory requirements by first removing the old asbestos insulation. Asbestos removal is required by licensed specialists in this craft. Once complete, connection of new piping and re-insulation of the whole system with currently approved insulation materials can begin. The project is more than 90% physically complete and close to budget.

Richard Leaning

WORK CAMP NEWS

Calling All Miniwans!!!!

The Youth Group is about to embark on their annual workcamp journey(June 21-27th) to Reading PA. We are in need of borrowing some minivans to get there. The vans would be driven only by our youth leaders (Beth and John) and would be gently used that week transporting kids to and from daily work activities. The vehicles are only going to Reading, so the wear and tear is the least it has ever been!. The youth group will rent a smaller, economy car for families willing to part with their minivans for the week. Minivan will be cleaned thoroughly before being returned. Mileage is deductible! Contact Hilary at (320-234-8408) or the church office if interested.

Children's Chapel

Children's Chapel will continue through the summer. Children ages 4-9 will meet in the Chapel at 10 AM and return to parents in church at the peace.

We are looking for adults to help lead the chapel during the summer. All supplies are organized and waiting for you along with a simple plan for each Sunday, including a Bible story, prayers, crafts and activities. Please let the office know if you are available or sign up in the back of the church. If you have questions, please contact Linnae Peterson, linnae.peterson@gamil.com

PASTORAL CARE

An important part of parish ministry is the support of parishioners and their families during illness or other emergencies. Please whenever you or a family member is admitted to the hospital or is ill or in an accident, call Father Bob, Sister Cassandra or the church office.

Fr Bob hears from lots of people on Sunday's so if you ask him to visit a family member or friend, please call the office the next day and confirm.

If the office is closed there will be a recorded message with an emergency contact number to call.

Also, Fr. Bob is available to meet with you for one-on-one spiritual direction or pastoral counseling.

2009 Christmas Bazaar Update.

Yes, you read that correct, a committee has been busy working together planning the upcoming Christmas Bazaar which benefits our outreach programs. Some plans that we have are:

-To sell those money saving Coupon Books again this year beginning in September

-Kick off dinners will be held in September, October and November at Friendlys and Apples to raise money

-This year to help with our profit, we will be collecting food items for our lunch menu.

-Our St. Barnabas Craft Table will be looking for donated craft items. If you have crafts to donate, please let us know.

The committee will keep you posted on upcoming meetings and notices, so make sure to stay tune to your Parish Pen and Sunday Bulletin. Our next meeting is scheduled for June 28th at 11AM.

Prayer Shawl Meeting Summer Schedule

Thursday, June 4 at 1pm in the new office area will be the last Prayer Shawl meeting until September.

The September meeting will be on Thursday the 3rd at 1PM.

YOUTH CORNER

What a great year it's been for the STB-YG! We have enjoyed spending so much time with all of you! This spring we've enjoyed game nights, good discussion, chocolate chip pancake night, a "cook-out" turned "cook-in" spaghetti supper and a trip to Delcastle Park. We are planning our last event for May 31st from **6:00 to 8:30** (please note the time change). We will meet at the church first & then we will go to Woodside Farms Creamery to taste some of the yummiest ice cream in the country!

It's hard to believe that Work Camp is almost here. Best wishes for a fantastic week to all who are participating! We are still putting together a summer schedule with youth group events. Don't forget the Blue Rocks Games on July 30th and August 21st! We need your help.

Thank you again to all the parents and youth group members for an awesome year. We look forward to seeing you over the summer & returning to our "normal" schedule in the fall!

Sarah & John Mester

STEWARDSHIP

Spring is in full bloom and summer coming around the corner. Many are looking for the end of the school year, graduations for some and the welcome respite of the summer vacation. Even though its been a rocky year for the economy there is talk of 'green shoots' of activity in the business papers - perhaps spring is coming for the global economy as well.

We at St. Barnabas have much to be thankful for - our 2008 stewardship campaign faired well despite the dramatic downturn in the economy. Our building expansion has stayed on schedule and on budget. We will soon dedicate the new space, and as agreed at our annual meeting, we will name it in honor of Fr. Merrill. We are fortunate to have been able to weather the economic downturn so far and still grow our parish and hope that things are turning for the better.

The Stewardship Committee thanks you for your continued faithfulness to our church and its work.

Wishing you a wonderful summer
The Stewardship Committee

WHAT ARE WE SAYING?

Just wonder how many more months we are going to hear in the news about Miss California. I never watch beauty pageants, but this controversy has been in the news so much, and I do watch the news, that I cannot help but note what has been going on. What does concern me is the total character assassination. I am speaking only of the contest itself. This gal was **asked** to give her **view/thoughts** on gay marriage, and as soon as she did, she was verbally attacked and maligned because the judge who asked the question did not like her answer. Not only that, the attacks have continued and continued to the point now that so many folks are gossiping about it.

I want to say that I am glad I am a practicing Christian, and I know this is a tough discussion to have with some folks, but to so openly and verbally attack someone because what that person thinks does not agree with what you think is just not Christian. She was asked her **view/thoughts** and in giving them, she is being destroyed. Gossip is lethal.

I think of Jesus and how he handled the Pharisees, the tax collectors, the lepers, Mary Magdalene, and the others. When we talk or gossip about someone, we are not acting as Christians. I remember being told about the Mother Superior at the Convent of the Sisterhood of the Holy Nativity, who told her nuns that there were three criteria to be met before repeating something. First, is it **true**; second, is it **kind/loving**, and third, is it **necessary**?

If it does **not** meet **all three**, then do not repeat it. I have tried to live by those criteria, and though it is not easy, and I do not always succeed, I try.

I know what it is like to have folks say things about me that are not true, and certainly not kind, do you? I think we have all been through that, especially as children and probably adults.

I guess I just had to get this off my chest and ask that my Christian family think twice, or actually three times**is it true, is it kind/loving, is it necessary?**

In our Baptismal Covenant we state we will . . .”respect the dignity of every human being”. If we, as Christians, would spend as much time in prayer as we spend talking about others, this world would become so much closer to being healed.

God’s Peace and Joy to all,
Sr. Cassandra Grace

ST. BARNABAS CRAFT TABLE

Calling all crafters!!! Whatever you do..... Knit, crochet, paint, sew, quilt, make jewelry, weave baskets, stamp, embroider, wheat weave, tat, etc..., please make and donate an item (or two!) for sale at the Annual Bazaar in December. Let this be one of your summer projects! We’ll call for the items a few weeks before the bazaar.

Thanks,
Laura Gracie

EVENT PLANNING GUIDELINES AVAILABLE

The church office has guidelines or “check lists” available for planning of Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals. A lot of coordination is needed in planning these events, and when these forms are filled out in advance, important details are less likely to be overlooked.

Please contact the Church Office for copies.

THANK YOU ST. BARNABAS

Dear Friends,

Thank you for your prayers and concerns during my recuperation following hip surgery. I greatly appreciated the Easter flower from the altar. The prayer shawl was especially useful in the hospital. Many visitors commented about it.

It means so much being part of such a caring church family.

Fondly,
Charlotte Sheehan

ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES

May 3, 2009

Mary Angerer and Sandy Simmermon were appointed tellers.

Candidates for Vestry are: Craig Brosi, George McDowell, Ed Rowles, Ann Lopez, Chris Slocomb, Dave Dill.

Elected were: Craig Brosi, George McDowell, Ann Lopez and Chris Slocomb to serve 3-year terms. Ed Rowles is the first alternate.

Continuing Vestry Members are: Sandy Simmermon, Susan Bebon, Bud Cooling, Ray Delaney, Jeff Bowersox, Jon Hall, Lori Kramer and Bud Cooling.

Outgoing members were acknowledged and thanked for their dedicated service on the vestry: Dave Walker, Dave Greenwood, Nancy Rybinski and Paul Peterson

Diocesan Convention Representatives were elected:

Virginia Thogerson for her second year as Representative;

Sandra Graper for her second year as alternate;

Susan Bebon was elected to a 2 year term as Representative;

and Bruce Richards for a 2 year term as alternate.

There are no nominations from the floor. Since this was an uncontested election the tellers submitted one vote for each candidate.

Patrick Kaser reported on the financial health of the parish and the five-year projections. He and Father Broesler recognized the dedication of the Finance Committee members.

While the parish is financially sound we will continue to review and scrutinize areas where there may be opportunities to tighten expenses. The Capital Campaign experiences increases in projected costs due to county fees and licenses etc. An additional \$50,000 will now be needed. As part of our Diocesan Loan they have agreed to match \$1 for every \$3 in additional pledges/receipts raised up to \$25,000. We took on some long-term debt and some bridge loans for cash flow purposes. A Family Foundation loan was also received at a very low interest rate.

After Father Bohner left, Father Broesler and the Vestry discussed options accomplishing Father Bohner's responsibilities: (1) hire a new graduate of a seminary. While desirable, this person would have a steep learning curve. (2) Divide the responsibilities into 4 areas - Youth, Pastoral Care, Education and Worship. The Vestry agreed this would be better stewardship at the current time.

Youth: Sara and John Mester have volunteered to continue their ministry for another year.

Pastoral Care: Sr. Cassandra has been hired to assist Father Broesler.

Worship: Parishioners and ordained guests will continue to lead worship services.

Education: Creation of a Director of Christian Formation position to lead all education programs is under discussion.

Nancy Clapp moved that the new building expansion be named in honor of Father William B. Merrill. Bill Precht seconded the motion. **The motion was unanimously**

passed.

NOTES FROM THE MUSIC DIRECTOR

As the program year quickly comes to an end, I would like to take the opportunity to once more offer my heartfelt thanks to every person who participated in any way in our music ministry this past year. That includes many, many persons. Those who participate in church music ministry do it because they love music, praising God through music, and also love the fellowship of a choir experience. Perhaps most importantly, they love the joy and responsibility of leading the congregation in worship. I truly appreciate everyone's time, talent, patience, and willingness to learn and grow. Our five choirs at St. Barnabas beautifully sang anthems and led worship at over 100 services throughout the past program year, not just on Sundays but during weekday services during Lent, the Easter Vigil, Christmas Eve, funerals and weddings, and during the summer. This is a tremendous testament to the strength and vitality of our music ministry and well as the commitment of our singers, every one of which is a "volunteer."

In addition, many members of the Chancel Choir joined my New Ark Chorale and my Select Choral Ensemble from the Music School of Delaware to present a wonderful combined concert "And the Night Shall be Filled With Music" under the auspices of the New Ark Chorale on March 28, 2009. This event was one of the spring musical highlights in the Delaware Valley area.

Please remember that there is always an open invitation for any one to join in any aspect of music ministry at St. Barnabas. If you ever have any questions or comments, please never hesitate to contact me.

I would like to offer a special thank you to our youth choir leaders, Cara Stanard, and Sandy Witman for their great work with the children's choirs. I also would like to thank Paul Peterson for his advice and encouragement with regard to the Renaissance Quire. I also would like to offer thank Dave Angerer for his assistance to our music ministry with his continued responsibility of managing the choral library.

I am most pleased that the Rock of Ages Choir is up and running again. We have had over 20 singers participate as we present a variety of anthems at eight 9:00 services as well as Christmas Eve service and the Easter vigil. We will be continuing the Rock of Ages rehearsal schedule in the fall of rehearsing during the 11:15 service on the second Sunday of the month, and then singing on the third Sunday.

We will begin our summer choir schedule on Sunday, June 21. We show up at 9:00, rehearse an anthem, and then sing it at the 10:00 service. All are welcome! Fall rehearsals will then resume the second week in September. May we always sing a new song to the Lord!

Have a most blessed, restful and peaceful summer!

Michael Larkin, Director of Music Ministry

Stephen Ministry

St. Barnabas has 12 parishioners who are trained Stephen Ministers, 9 women and 3 men. Plus, we have 1 Stephen Minister from another parish ministering with us. We have 10 persons receiving Stephens care. In April we made 19 contacts, both phone and home visits. At an average of 1.5 hours per contact that would be approximately 30 hours of care in one month.

Today, all of our female care givers have care receivers. We have one person who needs a care giver (Stephen Minister) and we are exploring the possibility of pairing with another church for her care giver. We are so blessed to be in this position. Stephen Ministry is vibrant and growing – an expression of the Christian community as Christ envisioned it: people caring for people in selfless Christian love.

In September we will be starting our third Stephen Minister training class at St. Barnabas. We provide 50 hours of training over a six month period (shorter if we meet more often.) If you have a spare hour each week that you can give to love and support someone in need, consider Stephen Ministry. You must be over 18 and under 100 to be a Stephen Minister.

Stephen Ministry is a one-on-one ministry. It is confidential. Men minister to men and women to women. The relationship may be short-term or long-term. Unfortunately, we are not commissioned to care for youth (under 18), or to work with groups. Our ministry is free. Stephen Ministers are supervised. We meet twice monthly to support and care for each other.

A word about men. We have 3 men trained as Stephen Ministers. 2 Have had caring relationships which have been brought to completion, one lasting about 6 months and the other just over a year. Our 3 men are currently unassigned. Why is this? Well, it seems that men tend to resist the idea of having a Stephen Minister. I guess it's in the genes – a need to feel like one has one's life under control, or not wanting an outsider to see one's weakness and pain. But guess what? A close-knit community like St. Barnabas can see it anyway. So wouldn't it be nice to have someone who will stand beside you?

Marriage in crisis? Loss of a loved one, or one's own life in peril? Job loss? Lonely? Illness or physical impairment? Children gone astray? Lose a friend? Hurt feelings? We often sail through life's storms with a firm hand on the tiller and then get shipwrecked on some submerged rock we never saw. Our clergy are there for the crisis, but Stephen Ministers can be there for the long swim back to shore. We have time.

Want more information? Talk to one of your Stephen Ministers: Nancy Clapp, Susan Bebon, Esther Smith, Ruth Bruner, Florence Kvalnes, Sandra Graper, Lynda Harriss, Ginny Thogersen, Sr. Cassandra, Hal Bruner, Andy Harriss, and Tony Summa.

Want to enroll in Training? See a Stephen Leader for an application: Lynda Harriss, Andy Harriss, and Ginny Thogersen.

Do you want someone to talk to? WWJD ?*See a Stephen Leader or our pastor.

Ginny Thogersen, Stephen Minister and Leader ,994-4570

*WWJD=What would Jesus do.

OUTREACH MINISTRY FUNDRAISER RESULTS

Thanks for your support and purchase at the 3rd Annual Spring Silpada Jewelry sale. Sales were light, but with just 4 orders, we were able to donate \$80 to Outreach Ministries. Of course I am happy to help you anytime with a purchase, home party or fundraiser event.

Cindy Richards, Independent Representative, Silpada Designs, phone 239-6470

Bowling News

Well, we certainly had fun this month with our 17 bowlers! Jordyn Kramer & Brian Fink were our visiting guests of honor! Some of our hilights: Bud Cooling had two turkeys (that's three strikes in a row in two separate games)!!! woo hoo!! Cathy Cooling bowled a 131, thanks to the strike Barry Wills rolled for her! Sometimes we visit so much we get out of order. Debbie Fink and John Martin almost had a turkey! Our high rollers were Doug Page 175, Barry Wills 167, Bud Cooling 172, Bill Johnson 174, and Dottie Johnson 122. You go girl!!

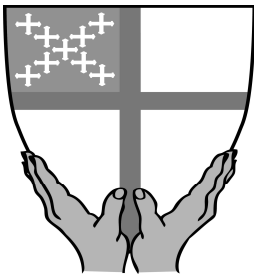
Best wishes and lots of good thoughts and prayers for John Martin who will have surgery on his hand and will miss a couple of months. We'll miss your encouraging words and coaching.

And just in case you're thinking of joining us but are intimidated by the high scores, don't worry, many of us still struggle to get to 100. We meet the third Saturday of each month at Price Lanes, \$10 per person for 3 games & shoe rental. Watch for the notice in the bulletin. If you'd like to be included on our email list for notices, please call Lori Kramer @ 302-994-5279 evenings or leave message. Snacks are always good but the fellowship is what keeps us 'rolling'.

Worship Services

Saturday
5:30pm Holy Eucharist
Sunday
7:30 and 10 am
Holy Eucharist
10:00 am
Children's Chapel
Ages 4-10

Sunday, June 7 Picnic
*Sunday, June 14, Bishop's visit, Confirmation and
Dedication of new addition*



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St. Barnabas' Episcopal Church
2800 Duncan Road
Wilmington, DE 19808
Phone: 302-994-6607
Fax: 302-994-2876

www.stbarnabasde.org

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