

**St. Barnabas' Episcopal
Church**

The Parish Pen

January 2010

www.stbarnabasde.org

A welcoming community of faith

Christmas Oratio – W. H. Auden

Well, so that is that. Now we must dismantle the tree,
Putting the decorations back into their cardboard boxes --
Some have got broken -- and carrying them up to the attic.
The holly and the mistletoe must be taken down and burnt,
And the children got ready for school. There are enough
Left-overs to do, warmed-up, for the rest of the week --
Not that we have much appetite, having drunk such a lot,
Stayed up so late, attempted -- quite unsuccessfully --
To love all of our relatives, and in general
Grossly overestimated our powers. Once again
As in previous years we have seen the actual Vision and failed
To do more than entertain it as an agreeable
Possibility, once again we have sent Him away,
Begging though to remain His disobedient servant,
The promising child who cannot keep His word for long.
The Christmas Feast is already a fading memory,
And already the mind begins to be vaguely aware
Of an unpleasant whiff of apprehension at the thought
Of Lent and Good Friday which cannot, after all, now
Be very far off. But, for the time being, here we all are,
Back in the moderate Aristotelian city
Of darning and the Eight-Fifteen, where Euclid's geometry
And Newton's mechanics would account for our experience,
And the kitchen table exists because I scrub it.
It seems to have shrunk during the holidays. The streets
Are much narrower than we remembered; we had forgotten
The office was as depressing as this. To those who have seen
The Child, however dimly, however incredulously,
The Time Being is, in a sense, the most trying time of all.
For the innocent children who whispered so excitedly
Outside the locked door where they knew the presents to be
Grew up when it opened. Now, recollecting that moment
We can repress the joy, but the guilt remains conscious;
Remembering the stable where for once in our lives.
Everything became a You and nothing was an It.
And craving the sensation but ignoring the cause,
We look round for something, no matter what, to inhibit
Our self-reflection, and the obvious thing for that purpose
Would be some great suffering. So, once we have met the Son,
We are tempted ever after to pray to the Father;
"Lead us into temptation and evil for our sake."

Worship Services

Saturday

5:30 pm Holy Eucharist

Sunday

7:30 am

10:00 am

Holy Eucharist

Coming Events

Tuesdays

9:30 am

Lady Julian's

Lounge

Thursdays

6:30 am

Early Risers

Lounge

Thursday, December 31

Youth Group Lock-in

Thursday, Jan 7

1:00pm

Prayer Shawl Ministry

Monday, Jan 4

Women's Luncheon

12:30

@ Back Burner

Wednesday, Jan 13

Men's Luncheon

@ Deerfield 12:30

January 3

10:00 am

Epiphany Pageant

Continued

(Continued from first page)

They will come, all right, don't worry; probably in a form
That we do not expect, and certainly with a force
More dreadful than we can imagine. In the meantime
There are bills to be paid, machines to keep in repair,
Irregular verbs to learn, the Time Being to redeem
From insignificance. The happy morning is over,
The night of agony still to come; the time is noon:
When the Spirit must practice his scales of rejoicing
Without even a hostile audience, and the Soul endure
A silence that is neither for nor against her faith
That God's Will will be done, That, in spite of her prayers,
God will cheat no one, not even the world of its triumph.

COUPON BOOKS STILL AVAILABLE

There are some coupon books available for purchase. Twenty dollars will bring you plenty of savings at local restaurants, family entertainment and stores. Some of the proceeds will be donated to Outreach. Books will be available after the 10:00 AM service or by calling Laura Gracie at 302-999-1156

FOR ALL OF YOUR MINISTRIES THIS CHRISTMAS

Christ has indeed been born in us at St. Barnabas' again in this Christmas season. The response to our outreach appeals was heart-warming. We were able to supply all of the gifts requested. Thanks to you, and despite the bad weather, the Bazaar was a smashing success, equaling last year's funds for parish outreach. Our gifted Ministers of Music, Michael Larkin, Sandy Witman, and Cara Stanard led our talented and dedicated choirs and soloists in a memorable Advent Lessons and Carols service and inspiring liturgies on Christmas Eve. Our Orphrey Workshop provided beautiful hangings and vestments as well as our traditional Chrismon trees. The Flower Guild and Altar Guild used your contributions to create a church filled with splendor. Our Communion Assistants, acolytes, readers, ushers and greeters helped lead our special liturgies. Behind the scenes, Beth Winward, Florence Kvalnes and all our superb office volunteers made all of the special arrangements and produced the special worship resources. Young continued to be sure that our facilities were ready to welcome the holiday crowds. And finally, we will be blessed with the worship of our children at the Epiphany pageant. It is a privilege for me to add my ministry to yours in this parish. May the Lord, whose coming we have celebrated, continue to come among us in our congregation and in all of your homes as we enter the new year.

Peter B. Huiner

YOUTH CORNER

December marked the end of our Adopt-A-Family ministry. Our sponsor from the West End Neighborhood House informed us that the mother of our family "cried with joy" when she saw all of the gifts! Thank you to everyone for their support and generosity this season. Looking ahead... **January** is going to be another busy month for the youth group. The St. Barnabas Bowling League has challenged us to a bowling tournament! On Saturday, January 16th, we will meet at Price's Lanes from 7 to 9:30 p.m. Please bring \$15 with you to cover the cost of food/shoe rental/games. Trophies for the winners!!! The week before, on January 10th, we will be designing and decorating T-Shirts to wear to the bowling tournament. On January 31st we will have taco night. More information to come.

Even though summer is still months away, we are already preparing for Workcamp. This year we are going to Montgomery, West Virginia from July 25th through the 31st. We are asking for a \$100 deposit due in January. Please confirm if you are going by emailing: stbyouthgroup@gmail.com.

John & Sarah Mester

STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

The campaign continues and we have received about half the number of pledges expected to date with the average pledge amount slightly above last year's.

As we move through the Advent season and look toward the celebration of the birth of Christ, please prayerfully consider your gifts to the church. We depend upon these to maintain our parish and its mission.

The Stewardship Committee wishes you Peace in the Holiday Season.

COOKIE WALK & BAKE TABLE

Thanks to all the ladies who made calls, we had many different kinds of cookies and delectable edibles at our Cookie Walk and Bake Tables. Multiple thanks to the bakers for the effort expended at a busy time of the year. We cleared over \$500 selling over 130 cans of cookies and we realized \$530 at the bake table. We could not have done it without YOU!

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

Prayer Shawl monthly get-togethers First Thursdays of the month at 1pm. Please join us in sharing in this special Pastoral Care ministry. For information please contact Charlotte Sheehan or Barbara Connell.

Christmas Bazaar Thanks

There are not enough thanks that can be expressed to the many people involved in this year's St. Barnabas Christmas Bazaar. To the many committee members that sat through my monthly meetings since March, to the Walker Family who graciously fed the Set-up Committee the night before the Bazaar. To our treasurer, Doug Page, who works tirelessly for the church and then also volunteers his time for the bazaar; and how can you forget the dedication of Anne Friel and Sue Day straightening all those books; and Laura Gracie accumulating the beautiful crafts from the various St. Barnabas parishioners.

Of course there is the appreciation of the Precht, Carpenter and Buchanan husband and wife teams that sort through all the cookies and bake goods without giving into the temptation of eating the profits.

And to the woman and men who give yearly to the White Elephant Sale, prepping, fixing, and selling those treasured items. A special thanks to Pamm Ferris who took over the chairing of the White Elephants and making sure Polly Anderson, Bill Tarbuton, Helen and Charlie Todderud and Warren O'Sullivan (we missed you this year Fran) kept on track.

Who could forget Cecelia Jones and her lovely arrangements? Or those elves that work so hard in the kitchen making chili, homemade soup, or delicious sandwiches, (Thank you Pat Venti, Bud and Cathy Cooling and crew).

And for those that love the Pecan and Poinsettias, hats off to Joan Greenwood and Sandra Graper.

But how can I forget, all the parishioners at St. Barnabas who support through their donations of bake goods, crafts, attic treasures and muscle. We should all be proud of our holiday giving as we have raised over \$6,000 this year to support our Outreach Activities.

To my friends at St. Barnabas from Jacoby, your church mouse

May the peace of the Lord Christ go with you, wherever He may send you.
May He guide you through the wilderness, protect you through the storm.
May He bring you home rejoicing at the wonders He has shown you.
May He bring you home rejoicing once again into our doors.

Celtic Blessing
Northumbria Community



Blood Pressure Monitoring will be available on every first Sunday after the 10:00 am service during the Parish Breakfast.

Parish Life Day Moves the Spirit....

Parish Life Day at St. Anne's Episcopal School on Nov. 21 was a wonderfully themed event titled, "Parish Life Day for the Body & Soul... Learning to live a healthy lifestyle" I wanted to share my experience there in the hope that more of us from St. Barnabas attend next year.

If you are an early arrival, you may be treated to some contemplative live music performed by Rev. Jim Bimbi of St. James Episcopal, Sue Welles and David Condo while you grab a morning muffin, fruit, and coffee and browse the many booths and displays that range from local outreach organizations, home health care, Anamchara Fellowship, to spiritual books, fair trade hand made creche pieces, and jewelry. What a great selection of unique and thoughtful gifts as we approach the Christmas season.

The day was kicked off with 30 minutes of a Gathering Worship and message from the Bishop. It was refreshing to have the Anamchara Fellowship lead the prayers in the gathering worship. After this opening worship, everyone was off to their first pre-registered workshop.

With 13 workshop offerings and just 2 time slots to attend, it's tough to narrow your choice, so if you bring a friend, plan to split up and explore. You can meet again for lunch and browsing time. This year's workshop lineup was fantastic with some choices for healthy eating and cooking, yoga, chanting, printmaking, "Counting the Cost of Compassion" for caregivers, "Soul Care for the post-Modern Pilgrim", and "A Spirituality of Imperfection" and more.

It was also great to meet parishioners from other Churches from Delaware and beyond our state and learn about their ministries as well as the organizations that had information booths there.

The day was completed with a Presentation From the Children who attended and then our closing prayers and hymn led by the Anamchara Fellowship.

Let's all take a closer look at this event next year for our personal spiritual growth. Watch for announcements of theme and date next fall.

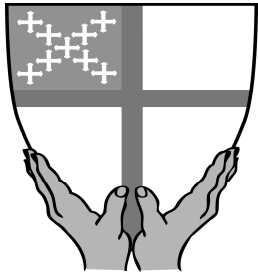
Inclement Weather Information

In the future, if there is snow or ice as there was on December 20th.....

Please listen to either WDEL (1150) or WSTW (93.7) for information on whether or not there will be church services.

St. Barnabas' Episcopal Church
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www.stbarnabasde.org



A welcoming community of faith

Non-Profit
US POSTAGE
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Permit # 82
NEWARK, DE

January 3, 2010
10:00 am
EPIPHANY PAGENT

Worship Services
Saturday
5:30pm Holy Eucharist
Sunday
7:30 and 10 am
Holy Eucharist
10:00 am