



**ST. BARNABAS'
EPISCOPAL CHURCH**
A welcoming community of faith

We are called by God to see Christ in all persons, grow in faith and live in joyful fellowship with one another.

Your Weekly e-News - December 11, 2020

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LIFE IN CHRIST - REFLECTIONS FROM OUR RESOURCE PRIEST, THE REV. SARAH NELSON

The Church

Do you remember that children's poem that reads, "Here is the church. Here is the steeple. Open the door and see all the people"? Well, these present days sure do challenge that simple little poem.

These days, the COVID virus is all around us. It is an ever-present reality that lurks and strikes without discrimination. Our world can feel unsafe and uncertain. For many, church is a place where we can come to feel close to our God, to be with people that we often call family, to pray and be held in prayer, to repeat the words of our faith, and to sing the hymns that speak of our deep and abiding spiritual path. But these days, that is different. These days, in order to be safe ourselves and to keep our beloved community safe, the church is not gathering together in a building. Instead, we are kept close through technology. Yet as functional as Zoom and FaceTime are, most of us long for human contact: to see the face of others, to hug, and simply touch. We know that we are doing the right thing for ourselves and others, yet our hearts long for more. This is hard, really hard! ... [Read More](#)

Please welcome our new rector and his family to our St Barnabas community: Father Kenn Katona, his wife Theresa, and

their son Leo!



Christmas Bazaar

2020

NOTICE! Tomorrow is the day (Saturday, Dec. 12th) to pick up your orders for chili - vegetable beef soup - cookies - paperwhites!



Payment is not due until pick-up - checks preferred. If you've already paid, thank you very much! Thanks to all of you who placed an order!!

IMPORTANT UPDATE!! You won't have to get out of your car and come in to pick up your order and pay! We have decided to have **CURBSIDE PICK-UP! When you arrive at St Barnabas, you'll see a sign at the ramp with Libby Green's number to call. Call her from your car and give her your name; someone will bring your order out to you and get your check.**

Remember that all monies raised will be, as always, distributed among our outreach charities. **We will gladly and gratefully take donations;** we've had a difficult year and so have our friends in need. Anything you can add to our fundraiser will be truly appreciated. **Feel free to donate to our ministries *with or without a purchase.***



THIS SUNDAY

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Sunday, December 13, 2020

Governor Carney has announced a statewide stay-at-home advisory until further notice (but at least until January 11, 2021), calling us to avoid gatherings wherever possible with persons outside of our immediate households.

To this end, Bishop Brown announced that all in-person public worship in the Episcopal Church in Delaware will be suspended effective immediately and until further notice. Online worship remains strongly and energetically encouraged, and ministers may gather in churches, following all public health protocols, for the purpose of recording and/or broadcasting services.

Therefore, a previously recorded service at St Barnabas will, as usual, be available on YouTube (the link will be sent out by 7:00 a.m. Sunday morning). Also, Rev. Sarah will also continue the Drive-Through Eucharist on Wednesday mornings.

Online Sunday Worship at St Barnabas

HOLY EUCHARIST on YOUTUBE

Sunday, December 13, 2020
Third Sunday of Advent

The online service will include three hymns: an Opening Hymn: 76 - On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry; an Offertory Hymn: 59 - Hark! A Thrilling Voice is Sounding; and a Closing Hymn: 65 - Prepare the Way, O Zion, played by Dr. Michael Larkin, aided by Lisa Bowe, with lessons read by Ed Rowles and Lisa, and the Prayers of the People led by Ed. The service will include a sermon by The Rev. Sarah Nelson.

A link to the recorded YouTube service will be sent to members by 7:00 a.m. on Sunday morning, or you will be able to access the YouTube service (on Sunday) through our YouTube account by clicking on the Online Worship link below (where you may also view any of our previous online services as well):

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCgYeLP1pWrJvz-JV9gEjoqA>

Books of Common Prayer and Hymnals are Available to Borrow -
Anyone wishing to follow along while viewing the recorded Worship or Live-Stream service may do so as you are viewing them may do so. The entire

Book of Common Prayer is available at: <https://www.bcponline.org/>. Or if you'd like to borrow a **Book of Common Prayer** from St Barnabas, please contact the church office at stbarnabas0ffice@comcast.net or telephone (302) 994 6607. A hymnal is also available to borrow.

Scripture Readings for This Sunday

Isaiah 61

:1-4, 8-11

Psalm 126

1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

John 1:6-8, 19-28



COFFEE & CONVERSATION

This Sunday, December 13

at 12:30 p.m.

You are invited to join us for **Coffee and Conversation**, hosted by Senior Warden Ed Rowles, following this Sunday's In-Person Eucharist. Entry by Zoom app. A link will be sent to members **by 7:00 AM on Sunday morning**. If you are interested in joining us, please contact Ed at erowles@comcast.net or 302-562-4580.

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Monday through Thursday

from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

and

Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

EVENTS & MEETINGS



Listening Circle

Saturday, December 12th - 3:30 - 4:30 p.m.'ish
(we will not meet if raining)

This Saturday, we will again be meeting for our Listening Circle. Bring your own lawn chair or blanket and meet "under the oak trees" at St Barnabas where we will open our hearts/minds and listen to shared stories, feelings, experiences from among those who show up. This is an informal, but intentional, session focused on the sacred act of listening.

Being with Grief Virtual Group

Mon., December 14th - 12:00 - 1:30 p.m.

(No meeting December 28th).

The Being with Grief Support Group will

I no longer meet "under the oaks" due to weather. However, we will continue to meet on the 2nd and 4th Mondays from 12:00 - 1:30 p.m. (except December 28th) **using Zoom!** A Zoom link will be emailed to anyone interested in participating in this source of support. If you are curious, know someone who needs support, or are in need of support yourself, please contact Mary Van House (see below) for more information or to be added to the email list.

The journey of grief is painful and lonely. No one should travel this road alone. In this time of COVID-19, it is even more difficult to connect with others. Whether your loss was 3 months ago, 3 years ago or 3 decades ago, you are welcome to join this therapist-led group for understanding your personal grief, encouragement and support.

For more information contact:

Mary Van House 302-542-8878 or mvanhouse@hotmail.com



**Online Bible Study
Tuesday, December 15th at 11:00 a.m.**

Each week during Advent, we will be reading different scriptures that relate to the Gospel Readings during Advent. This will be a great time to join us in Bible Study!

This week we look at John 1:1-18, led by The

Rev. Sarah Nelson. Bible study is conducted online via Zoom. Regular attendees will be sent a link on the day. If you are interested in joining, or for further information, please contact the office at 302-994-6607 or stbarnabas0ffice@comcast.net.

**Receive the Body of Christ
This Wednesday, December 16th
Between 10:30-11:30 a.m.**

The Eucharist is the primary worship of our community. Most every gathering of God's people finds God's feeding of God's people at its core. In the Episcopal Church, we reveal our Protestant and catholic coming together as we say, "Take, eat: this is my Body," followed quickly by, "Take them in remembrance of me." Indeed, the Bread is consecrated and becomes the Body of Christ, here present and among us. The Bread is also a Remembrance of our Savior who lived and died among us, using his dying and rising for us.

Needless to say, these weeks and months of the COVID virus have impacted how we celebrate God's most Holy meal. For some who are not able to join together in the sanctuary, this absence of the Eucharist is acute and painful. **Beginning Wednesday, December 2nd and continuing every Wednesday morning as long as there is the need, you are welcome to drive through the parking lot at St Barnabas between 10:30 and 11:30 a.m. to receive the Body of Christ.** Masks, gloves, hand sanitizer, and outdoor space will all be in place to keep us safe. You will stay in your car and I will offer you the Sacrament.

I hope that this sharing of our Eucharist will be helpful to you.

Faithfully,
Rev. Sarah Nelson

Youth Preparing for Confirmation?

Meet with Bishop Brown

Bishop Brown would like to meet with youth who have been preparing for confirmation during this time of pandemic.

**It is important to register in advance for this virtual meeting.
To register, please click [here](#).**

FINANCE / BUDGET

2021 Stewardship Campaign "All Things in Love" 1 Cor 14-16

2020 has been a year of change and challenge for St. Barnabas as we battle the pandemic and its effects on our daily lives, continue to move forward with the capital campaign and bring our search for a new rector to a conclusion. As we prepare for the new year, we will face new challenges as Fr. Kenneth Katona arrives in January and begins his ministry among us with one of the main emphases being to grow St. Barnabas during these challenging times. Please see this video below from our wardens Ed Rowles and Joanne Figliola, including vestry members Pat McDonald and Lydia York talking about the importance of Stewardship and support for St Barnabas.

Financially, St Barnabas has been impacted by the pandemic with decreases in pledge and plate income, and a loss of some rental income. Pledge income has dropped from about \$275k in prior years, to about \$225-\$245k in 2020. The Finance Committee has targeted pledge to increase by 6-12% to achieve the target budget of \$260k in pledge commitments for 2021. This will allow us to stabilize the church financials for 2021 even though we will need to draw on our endowment fund and still have a deficit that will be funding from cash savings. We believe that things will return to 'normal' in 2022.

At this stage, all we need from you is a pledge, which will be kept confidential. Your pledge is an offering to God, an investment in St Barnabas as your spiritual home. On behalf of the vestry and finance committee, we ask that you prayerfully consider your pledge for the upcoming year.

There are 3 ways to submit your pledge:

1. Return the pledge card that has been mailed to you to the church office by Monday, December 14th or at the 11:00 AM worship service on Sunday, December 13th.

- Click the link to view a copy of the [Stewardship letter](#).
- Click the link to view a copy of the [pledge card](#).

2. Submit your [online pledge form](#) on our website.

Click the red Stewardship button (on Home Page) which will take you to the pledge form.

3. You also have the option to donate directly on line via the [DONATE](#) button via paypal or credit card.

Faithfully,

Ed Rowles
Senior Warden

Brian Engler
Finance Chair

Joanne Figliola
Junior Warden

Craig Brosi
Treasurer

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN UPDATE

We have completed the first three phases of the Capital Campaign upgrades:

1. New flooring and carpet in the sanctuary
2. New upgraded sound system
3. New Cornell-Zimmer organ

The final phase of the sanctuary upgrades are now in the planning stages:

1. New front doors
2. New windows
3. Paint inside of the sanctuary
4. Other miscellaneous upgrades to the sanctuary

We will begin the final phase of sanctuary upgrades after we have received adequate funds to complete them.

The Capital Campaign committee will be sending out campaign pledge statements to everyone in the next couple of weeks. Due to the pandemic, the deadline for completing the Capital Campaign has been extended to June 1, 2021, to allow adequate time for the final contributions to be received. A big **THANK YOU!** to everyone who has contributed to the very successful Capital Campaign.

Below is a summary of the Income and Expenses for the Capital Campaign.

If there are any questions, please let us know.

Sincerely,

George McDowell Capital Campaign Chairperson gkmcdow@icloud.com
Bill Rose Capital Campaign Treasurer rosewc9@gmail.com
Brian Engler Finance Chairperson brian.r.engler@gmail.com

Income:

Pledges Received: \$ 231,891

Open Pledge Amount: \$ 32,565

Memorial Fund: \$ 30,000

Expenses:

Organ: \$ 143,097

Floor: \$ 61,529

Sound System: \$ 24,978

Campaign Expenses: \$ 8,535

2020 Financial Update and Key 2021 Budget Issues

The Finance committee presented a draft budget to the Vestry at the November Vestry meeting. This is to share with the rest of the parish the current state of our financials and our challenges for 2021.

[Click here](#) to view entire 2020 Update and 2021 Budget Outlook.

Please contact either of the Wardens, Ed Rowles or Joanne Figliola, or the Finance chair, Brian Engler, or the Treasurer, Craig Brosi, with any questions.

NOTICES



NOTES FROM THE MUSIC DIRECTOR

My dear friends in Christ,

I would like to share a few thoughts about Advent. During Advent, I am often reminded of that very profound verse from Psalm 46: "Be still and know that I am God." In our busy lives, finding the time to be still and to know God, and the love of God, can certainly be a challenge, especially during Advent.

This is particularly true when the joys of Advent and Christmas season possibly become mingled with any burdens or concerns on our hearts, or the secular and sacred hustle and bustle of the season becomes challenging, and at times even overwhelming. That is not to say that the hustle and bustle of the season is necessarily a bad thing. It is not. It is part of our culture and has been for a long time, and like it or not, we are all part of it. Sometimes the best way to deal with something is to accept it for what it is.

Even under the best of circumstances, the Advent season often seems to be ignored, at best underappreciated, or seemingly brushed aside. There can be a premature rush and desire for Christmas Day. Unfortunately, many folks consider Black Friday to be the beginning of the Christmas season. It is so easy to get caught up in the secular and sacred hustle, bustle, and busyness of the season that there just is not time for Advent. This, indeed, is unfortunate.

A dear teacher and conductor often said to me, "The mountaintop is much more magnificent if you have spent some time in the valley." That thought is especially true for the seasons of Lent and Advent. In similar fashion, the birthday of our Savior is all the more meaningful and joyous if we have traveled the Advent journey to arrive there. The Bible stories such as the end time, John the Baptist, Elizabeth and Zechariah, Joseph, and Mary are so rich in meaning, courage, and faith, and they beautifully lead us to that night in a stable. That night when Love came down to earth, angels exclaimed to us loudly and clearly, "Do not be afraid." ... [Read More](#)

**2021 Offering Envelopes and Calendars
are available in the back of the church.**

FLU SHOT REMINDER

Let's ALL consider getting a flu vaccination this year to protect us from pneumonia that could also be life-threatening, especially with medical systems being overwhelmed by active COVID-19 infections.

Thank you,
Maria Perez

CAMP ARROWHEAD



Camp Arrowhead:
35143 Homestead Way, Lewes, DE 19958

23 November, 2020

Dear Parish Families,

This information concerning camper registration for the 2021 summer season

is coming to you on the late side and I apologize right up front. Teri Valente our director has been in conversation with the American Camping association, the Center for Episcopal Camps and Conferences and the State of Delaware department of Health Services working hard to determine the safest scenario on how to proceed given the current COVID status and projection for the 2021 summer season.

Within the past week we made the decision to open summer registration on December 1st at 55% under the assumption if conditions did not change, these would be the camper/staff numbers we feel we could safely operate with. All 2019 camper families have been advised of our plans via email. In this mail we stressed that there will be campers from long time camper families, alumni, donors and our Delaware Episcopal Church community that will find their choice full, and the importance of placing the camper's name on the waiting list for their chosen session. Praying that success with vaccines and common sense will allow us to increase our registration number next spring, we will contact families in the order they appear on these lists for placement.

Included in this mailing are [posters and general brochures](#). We would really appreciate it if you could post them in your information area. As always, the website www.camparrowhead.net, has lots of information about the camp and program, which can easily be passed on to anyone with a question. A call to the camp office is always welcome as well.

Thanks for your help and stay safe!

Walt Lafontaine
Executive Director

O U T R E A C H

FAMILY PROMISE NEWS

Our three service weeks for Family Promise 2021 are::

- *10-day program: Thursday 1/7 thru Saturday 1/16/21
- *Wk 2: Wk 4/18/21 (Sun - Sat)
- *Wk 3: Wk 7/18/21 (Sun - Sat)

With COVID restrictions, our work is limited to preparing and delivering meals to 2-3 families staying at a hotel in the Christiana area. Family Promise continues to work with the families to accomplish those things that enable them to find and remain in permanent housing, typically within 45-60 days. Once rehoused, Family Promise continues to work with the family to ensure their success in maintaining housing.

Do you have a favorite holiday meal or casserole dish to pass? We are always looking for volunteers interested in preparing or purchasing some portion of the dinner for Tuesday and Thursday nights. During our last session in July, a few of us would drive and meet at the hotel, to deliver the meals to the families.

Kitchen Tools. The hotel room is equipped with a refrigerator, microwave, and 2-burner stove, and minimal utensils and dishes. When a new family joins the program, we have found it helpful to provide just a few additional kitchen supplies, such as an electric skillet, basic cooking utensils, etc. Please keep it in mind if you find you have something helpful to donate, as Family Promise is occasionally looking for this type of donation.

While we are active in this program 3 weeks each year, the wonderful work you do literally cares for families the entire year. Without a full slate of volunteer churches, the calendar schedule and program would fall apart. This is the only shelter program in Delaware that enables a family to stay together at a time of stress, and is also the most successful program in New Castle County, thanks to their excellent program and the personal touch of each volunteer. Thank you for all your support, donations, volunteerism, and prayers for this ministry and volunteers.

Cindy Richards
302-690-0751

SCOUTS BSA TROOP 1923 FUNDRAISER

Support Troop 1923 by letting the Scouts pick up your Christmas tree! **On Saturday, January 9th**, we will come and take it away for recycling or use as a wildlife habitat. Simply schedule the pick-up, put your tree on your curb or driveway, and we'll do the rest! Your \$20 donation for this contactless service goes to cover costs and to support the Troop in its adventures.

To reserve your spot, visit our website at <https://bit.ly/Troop1923>, right-click the link at the top of the page, and fill in the information. You can even prepay! Contact Patrick and Catherine Kaser with any questions you may have at Troop1923sm@gmail.com or 302-383-1604.

To Friendship House Church Partners

I'm reaching out because this year Friendship House has compiled an advent calendar. The advent calendar is a fun, interactive way to give back to the community. I've attached a link to the pdf on our website. Please let me know if you have any questions or a better contact for me to reach out to. Thank you for your loving support!

[Click Here to view Advent Calendar](#)

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Kristen Reisor
Volunteer & Communications Coordinator
Friendship House, Inc

Community Church Outreach

Currently, the Community Church can use more donations of canned vegetables, regular size boxes of cereal (not family size), canned tuna, and

pasta sauce. They will also accept produce from home gardens.

You may drop off your donation in the lobby of St. Barnabas Monday through Thursday from 9am - 2pm. Thank you. If you should have any questions, please contact Amy Quillen, [302-533-5768](tel:302-533-5768).

The Community Church Outreach is affiliated with Friendship House. The terminal goal of the Outreach is to one day become an empowerment center just like the empowerment center on Main Street in Newark.

Intentional Love

*Do not be dismayed by the brokenness of the world.
All things break. And all things can be mended.
Not with time, as they say, but with intention.
So go. Love intentionally, extravagantly,
unconditionally.
The broken world waits in darkness for the light that
is you.
L.R.Knost*

COMMUNITY **NEWS**

WILMINGTON HANDBELL CHRISTMAS 2020 LIVE STREAM CONCERT



**WILMINGTON HANDBELL
ENSEMBLE
2020 WINTER CONCERT**

**Saturday, December 12, 2020
4:00 p.m.**



**Live Streamed at WHE and
Westminster Presbyterian Church
websites:**

Click [HERE](#) for Livestream.

Click [HERE](#) for Donations.

www.wilmingtonhandbellensemble.org

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

Below are listed Birthdays and Anniversaries for December. Please contact the church office at stbarnabasOffice@comcast.net to let us know if you're not listed or the date is incorrect.

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- 1 - Maria LaValle
- 3 - Tyler Everts
- 4 - William Jack
- 4 - Stephen Steenkamer
- 4 - Maya Rybinski
- 6 - Barry Wills
- 7 - Sandra Witman
- 8 - Kirk Witting
- 10 - Linda Hardy
- 11 - Theodore Strukelj
- 13 - Susan Bebon
- 17 - Kristen Boulden
- 18 - Caroline Bryant
- 19 - Mary Stow
- 19 - Marjorie Sullivan
- 19 - Alexandra Jack
- 20 - Barbara Connell
- 21 - Sheridan Quarless Kingsberry
- 22 - Susan Martin
- 22 - Sarah Jane Page
- 24 - Sandra Grim
- 26 - Marko Strukelj
- 26 - Lindsey Vitalo
- 31 - Patricia Lennon

DECEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

- 2 - Catherine & Patrick Kaser

ADVENT BLESSINGS

*May the Advent season deepen our desire for the coming of Jesus,
who brings peace to us and to our world.*

PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO NEED HEALING AND COMFORT:



Arlene & Dave Carpenter, John Materis, Gail Calhoun, Leon Slocomb, Nancy Clapp, Bruce Clinton, Sr. Rosie, Lilly Walker, Thomas Boyle, David Jefferson, Maria LaValle, Peggy Bachman, Barb & Jerry Connell, Gehana, Matthew, Idella Ludwig, Michael Larkin, Jeff Stanard, Dave Greenwood, John Martin, John Warrington, George & Kammy Franz.

Those serving in the Armed Forces. Those who are homebound.

Those who have died, especially Ken Weaver, Rev. Adam McNealy Lewis III, Jack Morrison

PLEASE PRAY FOR the First Responders, EMS, Paramedics, Doctors, Nurses, Hospital Aides, Respiratory Therapists, Medical Technicians, and Medical Assistants; for Environmental Services, Social Workers, Phlebotomists, Security Services, and Food Services; for Policemen, Firemen, and Ambulance Drivers. Pray also for all those we cannot see but are hard at work providing care for the sick.

May God walk with them every step of their day and guide them. Open their hearts to see you at work in the world around them, including especially Leslie, Lydia, Kathi, Stephen, Mike, Ali, Caroline and Magdy.

EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN DELAWARE

MORNING PSALM AND PRAYERS

To view the Winter 2020/2021 issue of *Delaware Communion Magazine* and the December 9th issue of *The NET*, please click on the links below:

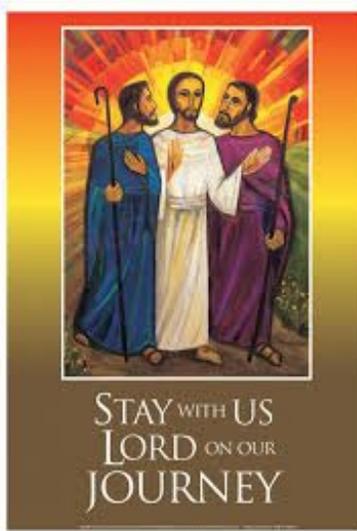
[DELAWARE COMMUNION](#)

Winter 2020/2021 issue
(published December 2020)

[The NET](#)

December 9, 2020 issue*

*This week, the NET is filled with great information and wonderful articles about what's going on all over the Episcopal Church ... from local news to news from the Anglican Church to everywhere in-between! BUT CHECK IT OUT ESPECIALLY to see a video of a sermon delivered last Sunday (12/6) by Fr David Beresford, who is now, as you know, at St Martha's, Bethany Beach, as their Interim Rector.



VESTRY MEMBERS

Sr. Warden: Ed Rowles (2021)

Jr. Warden: Joanne Figliola (2022)

Jeff Bowersox (2023)

Bob Haushalter (2023)

Alan Irwin (2021)

Valerie Jackson (2022)

Bob Jefferson (2022)

Pat McDonald (2023)

Sarah Smith (2023)

John Warrington (2022)

Marian Weir (2021)

Lydia York (2021), Vestry Clerk

Recording Secretary: Debbie McGonigal
