



ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S  
E P I S C O P A L C H U R C H



# Annual Report

## 2017 Highlights

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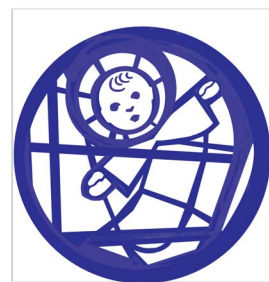
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# From the Rector

The first time I opened the St. Bartholomew's Parish Profile back when I heard about the rector position, it was obvious this is a unique Christian community — one of great depth and devotion, with a particular shape of life and style of worship, a family that has experienced the healing grace of God and is now fixed on sharing that grace with the world around you. After two months on the ground as your rector, I'm even more convinced this is so.

Today is my first Annual Meeting with you. This occasion gives us an opportunity to come together as a parish family to worship, celebrate, and ask for God's guidance as we elect vestry members and consider our budget for 2018. I'm grateful for your presence here and your commitment to life as a voting member of this parish.

I also want to take just a moment to encourage us to recommit ourselves to this community of Christians. Recently I heard a talk by *New York Times* columnist David Brooks, who said this:

In 2007, the Gallup organization did a survey all around the world, and one thing they asked was "Do you have a sense of purpose and meaning in your life?" And the country where the most people said "Yeah, I have a sense of purpose and meaning in my life" . . . was Liberia, and it wasn't because everything was going great in Liberia. They were in the middle of a war. But in order to survive they had to commit ferociously to each other . . . And so that sense of commitment gave people a sense of existential urgency — "I'm in it with you."

As we start a new year with its new challenges and opportunities for St. Bartholomew's, I'm grateful to be "in it" with each of you. The coming months will be pivotal ones for us, and I ask your prayers for me, the other clergy of the parish, and the vestry and staff as we seek to implement the vision we are discerning through prayer, worship, formation, and deep listening to each other. I'm so looking forward to the listening parties we have scheduled over the coming weeks because I'm interested in hearing your stories, as well as your ideas and dreams for our common life.

What follows are reports from the wardens, from the treasurer, and from the various ministries and teams that make up life at St. B's. If you have any questions about these reports, you're welcome to speak to the vestry liaison or the director of the particular ministry. And you're always welcome to contact me directly about any thoughts or questions you may have — I want my door to be always open.

Thank you for your faithfulness, your prayerful consideration of these reports, and your active participation in our family at St. Bartholomew's, the body of Jesus Christ incarnated here on Belmont Park Terrace in Nashville. May God continue to bless our life together!



Fr. Sammy on his first Sunday standing on the chancel steps with his wife Renee, and children (L to R), Flannery, Elizabeth, and Patrick.



# From the Wardens

It's been a year full of both hard and good things for the vestry and the people of St. Bartholomew's. Transition is never easy and there were times this year when we - and the whole vestry - yearned for one leader to guide us and our parish. Thankfully, that leader joined us on November 19. The path to calling Father Sammy Wood as the next rector of St. B's was a long one that involved many people. We are grateful for the staff who kept the ship afloat, the parish itself who stayed present during the changes, the search committee who found four excellent candidates and Father Sammy for accepting God's call to join us.

As we move into a new calendar year together, let us renew our commitment to each other and to our God. St. B's is family because we share one heavenly Father.

## Budget

2017 giving fell short of budget by approximately \$60,000. The staff of St. B's have done an excellent job of managing costs during the past eighteen months of transition. Given our present circumstances and giving trends, it is likely that we will need to access our line of credit in the early months of 2018 to manage cash flow. However, the line of credit is not a long term solution to the budget deficits we are facing. The 2018 budget is roughly \$100,000 more than the 2017 budget, a 3% increase over last year's budget and 7.5% increase over 2017 actual costs. The vast majority of the projected increase is due to personnel costs related to health care and having a full time rector for the entire 2018 year. *The good news is that only \$2,000 in additional giving per week would allow us to meet the 2018 budget as written.*

A church budget is always created through a mixture of projections based on data and faith that God will provide through our community. Because of this, despite giving not meeting projections, the vestry has voted to increase the compensation of several full time staff members who have gone without even a cost of living increases during this time of transition. We make this recommendation to the budget based on our desire to do right by our staff who have given so much of themselves.

Looking forward, in 2018 the finance committee will meet quarterly and advise the vestry on giving trends and suggested budget adjustments. December 2017 giving was one of the best months of giving we have had in years. It is the fervent hope and prayer of the vestry that giving will continue to reflect the energy and excitement



*During the transition, Sr. Warden, Seth Swihart, made many announcements on Sunday mornings to the St. B's Family. None compared to the one regarding Fr. Sammy Wood accepting the call as St. B's ninth rector.*

surrounding our new leadership and that the budget can be adjusted to reflect increased giving by mid-year.

## Staff

St. Bartholomew's is blessed to have a committed, faithful, excellent staff. They are committed to the parishioners of St. B's. They are faithful to God and each other. They are excellent in their execution of their jobs. During a tumultuous year that included the dismissal of our

## The Wardens continued

youth minister, Steve Lefebvre, the end of term of our interim rector, Christian Brady, and the arrival of a new rector, the staff have ensured a stable, worshipful experience for those seeking God at St. Bartholomew's.

### Vision

As you likely have already noticed, Father Sammy is committed to hearing from the people of St. B's about where we are before discerning a vision for where we need to go as a church. Events like Wednesday at the Woods for teens and Listening Parties for the congregation will help shape our vision for St. Bartholomew's in 2018. The vestry has also created an Organizational Review Team comprised of Morgan Wills, Alfred Dowell, and Renee Wood to help the vestry identify the questions we should be asking about how we move forward as a community. Please join the wardens and vestry in praying for God to offer a clear vision along with the lay leadership that will be needed to execute this new vision.

### Calling

We are grateful to be a part of the people of St. Bartholomew's. It is our hope that this year we will be continually reminded of our calling as God's people to love, serve and sacrifice of ourselves for the greater good.

*If there is any encouragement in Christ, any solace in love, any participation in the Spirit, any compassion and mercy, complete my joy by being of the same mind, with the same love, united in heart, thinking one thing. Do nothing out of selfishness or out of vainglory; rather, humbly regard others as more important than yourselves, each looking out not for his own interests, but everyone for those of others.*  
-Philippians 2:1-4

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Shannon Truss, Jr. Warden

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### Thank you again to those who served on the Search Committee.

Joe Flynn, *Chair*  
Nancy Cason  
Brea Cox  
Bob Garth  
Mavis Harrop  
Tony Morreale  
George Rowe  
Andrea Sullivan  
David West, Jr.  
Katherine Wright  
Ty Sparks, *Vestry Liaison*  
Earl Ruley, *Vestry Liaison*



On Fr. Sammy's first Sunday, families were invited to put a flag where they live on the St. B's Family Map. The 6 ft wide map now hangs in Wallace Hall. Families can still have their flag added.



# Treasurer's Report

We knew 2017 would be a challenge given a budget 6.7% above actual giving for 2016. Though we did exceed 2016 giving, we did so by only \$26,950 or 2%. As such, we did not meet our funding goal for the year. In spite of this funding shortfall, continued careful expense management by the staff, unanticipated savings due to the rector position being vacant from July to November, combined with very strong giving in December to close out the year, allowed us to end 2017 with a net positive for the year. We ended the year with gifts totaling \$1,383,610 and expenses of \$1,320,950 for net income of \$62,660.

While I am grateful for 2017's outcome and the springboard into 2018 that it provides, there are a couple of items to point out. We will not benefit in 2018 from vacant positions to the extent that we did in 2017. Additionally, while the staff will continue to maintain their focus on expense management, there is very little room for further expense reductions without seriously impacting the variety and quality of offerings at St. B's.

As a result, the 2018 budget of \$1,490,624 has been set using 2017 actual spending as the base. Although there are certain areas where the Vestry has decided to make additional investments above 2017 levels, a significant portion of the increase compared to the 2017 spending was unavoidable due to increased personnel costs. As a result, the current budget is 7.7% above 2017 actual giving. I know that the staff and Vestry will continue to exercise great care in the allocation and use of the resources entrusted to them and I have faith that God will continue to provide for the financial needs of St. B's.

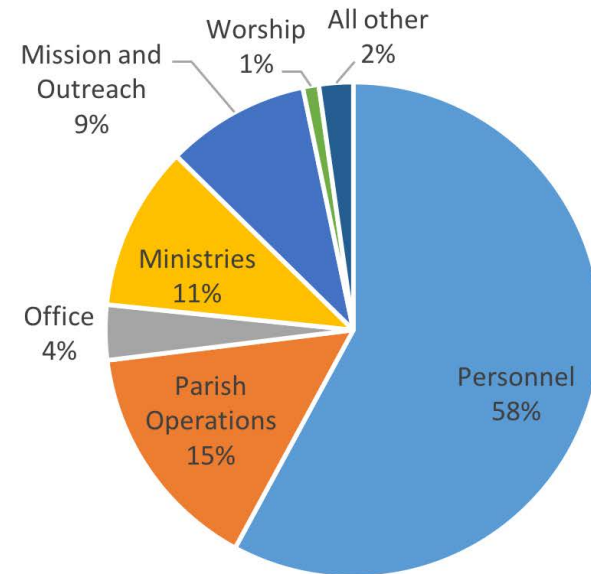
## Contact

**Alfred Dowell**

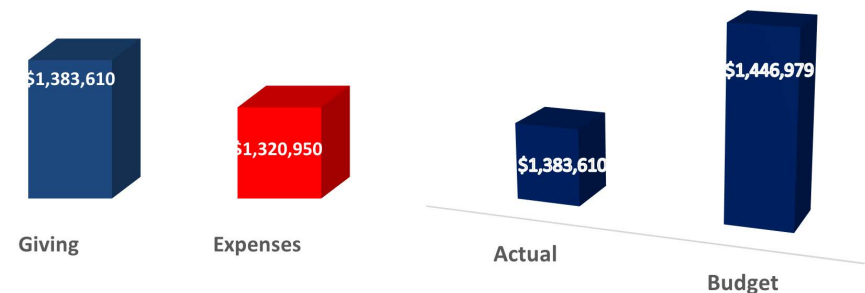
*Treasurer*

*adowell002@gmail.com*

### 2017 Spending by Area



### Year End Summary





# Worship

## Music:

Over the past year the music department remained very healthy and has continued to grow. This growth is especially evident in the adult choir and children's choir.

Under the expert supervision of Julia McGirt, the children's choirs include:

- The Cherubs, under the direction of Julia. 4 year olds – first grade.
- The Choristers, under the direction of Pam Goodenough – grades 2 – 5.
- Cantiamo, under the direction of Mary Grace Shuster – grades 6 – 12



*Julia McGirt, Brea Cox, and Cathy Link directing the Cherubs at the beginning of the liturgy.*

Up until a couple of years ago St. B's had no children's or youth choir in the church. Moving into 2018 all three choirs have regular rehearsal schedules and will be performing throughout the year.

One of the exciting accomplishments in 2017 has been raising enough money for the restoration and completion of our organ. When our sanctuary was built and the organ was installed, the church did not have enough funds to complete the organ to a basic standard level of performance. This year our organ company came to us with the offer to purchase and install the pipes at half the originally quoted price for completion.

As we look to the future and our Sunday music program grows, there is a continued need for more and better-organized space in the loft. The musicians are currently working in very cramped conditions, and due to the layout of the loft, it makes it very difficult to execute the level of excellence and growth that David is striving to build. We would ask you to pray with us that in the very near future we will be able to do a remodel of the balcony and are to better facilitate our quickly expanding music worship program.

## Altar & Flower Guild:

Both the Altar and Flower Guild continues to flourish under the experienced leadership of Thorunn McCoy. Currently there are 20 people on the Altar Guild and

## Contact

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### Phyllis Xanthopoulos, Prayer Desk

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### Tom Hutchinson, 10:30 Ushers

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### Sue Pichert, Greeters

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### Thorunn McCoy, Altar and Flower Guild

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### Fr. Sammy Wood, Rector

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## Worship continued

12 on the Flower Guild. These members ages span from 15 years old to over 70. Thorunn has done a tremendous job to create a cross generational crew of volunteers who enthusiastically serve our community. Another highlight this year was the addition of a number of handmade Linens and Alms for our Eucharistic services. Also due to a couple of generous gifts, we were able to purchase new frontal vestments (green) to replace the vestments that we have used since the beginning of the church.



*Kathy Leo holding a few of the handmade alms for the offering plates.*

### Altar Teams:

2017 was a challenging and sometimes demanding year of transition for the St.

Bartholomew's community. The acolytes, lay Eucharistic ministers, and vergers served alongside five different celebrants, as well as our Bishop, the Canon to the Ordinary, and other visiting clergy, each with their own expectations and ways of doing liturgy. Along with the other members of the worship team in the altar guild, lay readers, ushers, and music ministries, the servants "inside the rail" strove to accommodate each one, to support them as they led us in worship, and to enhance the worship experience for everyone present. They eagerly volunteered to cover all extra services and to substitute for each other. The entire roster of Lay Eucharistic Ministers (LEMs) and acolytes remained committed to their ministries throughout the season of uncertainty.

Three new LEMs were recruited and trained and began serving in 2017. Additionally, six new acolytes were added to the roster. Five current acolytes were trained as crucifers, and four as thurifers. Four acolytes were given a silver cross by the church in appreciation for their five years of service, and each of those four continue in their ministry. The head verger taught a session for the class of confirmands and for the home school tutorial, continued to participate in weekly conference calls devoted to liturgical planning, and began attending bi-weekly staff meetings. No vergers attended the annual verger conference in 2017.

Thanks be to God for the 34 LEMs, and 34 acolytes, and the vergers who heard and heeded the call to serve the community of St. Bartholomew's in 2017.



*Above: Bev Mahan, Verger, leading the altar team during the recessional hymn.  
Below: Pat Bowlby with the offering plates during the liturgy.*





# Children & Family Formation

In 2017, St. B's Children and Family Formation continued creating space for the Holy Spirit to work in the lives of the church's children through its ministry opportunities.

**Catechesis of the Good Shepherd** is a method of Christian formation "rooted in the Bible, the liturgy of the church, and the education principles of Maria Montessori". Catechesis is offered during the 8:30 a.m. Sunday service for children ages 3-5 yrs. (Level 1) and ages 6-9 yrs. (Level 2). Currently there are five trained catechists serving in the two Level atriums, with two in training for Level 3 and one in training for Level 2. Attendance continues to grow, and there remains interest in creating a Level 3 class. Lessons from the fall schedule included Introduction of the Prayer Table and the Bible, Prayers and Praise Cards, Prophecy of Light, and Synthesis of Eucharist.

**Liturgy of the Word** allows children to hear the word of God and experience God in prayer, activities/crafts, and song on Sunday mornings during the 10:30 service. Classes are offered for Pre-K through 6<sup>th</sup> grade. The curriculum, based in Scripture, liturgy, and the Anglican tradition, is written in house by Carla Schober and other volunteers. Lessons are created to support St. B's unique personality and mission, and are modified to reach each grade level. During 2017, lessons covered Joseph and His Brothers, The Forgiving Prince, Moses's Relationship with God, and the Adamic Covenant review with Creation.

**The Nursery Ministry** was highly utilized throughout the year. In June, to build community and welcome families, parents of nursery-aged children and expecting parents were received during a brunch. The nursery continues to grow and several times in 2017, due to mandated child-adult ratios, the number of infants and toddlers was capped. The need for more volunteers in the nursery is every-present. Gaylene Latham maintained her work with providing meals to new parents. If you would like to participate in the Meals for New Moms, feel free to contact Gaylene at [nursery@stbs.net](mailto:nursery@stbs.net).

## Highlights from 2017:

- Michelle Andrade took on a new project facilitating a monthly newsletter, **C-News**. The monthly electronic newsletter, similar to St. B's Enews, is a way to communicate activities of the Children's Ministry to parents.
- **Sacred Communion** class occurred in the Spring for the second year. Thirteen children were honored during the Easter service for completing the class. Sacred Communion was offered to baptized children in second through fourth grades and their parents during weekly evenings.
- **Kaleidoscope** usually held during the first week in June, was moved to Sunday mornings during August in 2017. The day camp for rising Kindergarten through 6<sup>th</sup> grades studies the Saints through games, crafts, music, and fellowship.



*The cast and crew of the 2017 Children's Christmas Pageant.*

- **5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Club** received a facelift, with a new name, Club 56, and new Director, Adam Nunley. The group met once a month throughout the year, including a Christmas party, a retreat, hiking, and movie and game nights.
- Children and Family Formation volunteers were celebrated during Carla's annual **Volunteer Fiesta** at her house in April. This a treasured time for volunteers to fellowship and build community.

### Leadership:

As St. B's was in transition during this past year, the Children and Family Formation staff remained strong. They were able to offer the same services with a limited budget. Carla and her staff are very appreciative of the many volunteers who give their talents to the Christian formation of our children.

### Looking Ahead:

Volunteers are always welcome to serve the children in our parish! There are no educational requirements, just a willingness to love God and love children. All volunteers will need to undergo a background check and complete a Safeguarding Our Children training, then just commit to serve twice a month.

2018 is expected to be another year full of excitement for this ministry. The staff remains committed to carrying out these

services as faithful stewards of God's resources. A big thank you to this staff and our congregation for making this ministry a loving place for children to worship!

### Contact

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### 2017 Children Formation Team

*Director of Children & Family Formation: Carla Schober*

*Assistant: Michelle Andrade*

*Nursery Director: Gaylene Latham*

*Catechesis of the Good Shepherd Director: Deborah Whiteside*

*Catechesis of the Good Shepherd Asst. Director: Meredith Flynn*

*Catechesis of the Good Shepherd Asst: Adria Lambert*

*Liturgy of the Word Director: Elizabeth Madeira*

*Club 56 Director: Adam Nunley*

*Sunday Morning Assistant: Dawn Wyant*



*Some of the St. B's children's staff pose with St. Nicholas, portrayed by Robert Smith. From L to R: Gaylene Latham, Dawn Wyant, Robert Smith, Carla Schober, and Michelle Andrade.*



# Youth Formation

2017 was a painful and challenging year for all involved with St. B's, especially for the youth.

January through May, the 7-12 graders of our community continued connecting and growing through their usual gatherings under the leadership of Steven Lefebvre, Director of Youth Formation. LOGOS on Sunday mornings, suppers on Wednesday evenings with the choir community, the monthly Super Commando Game Nights (SCGN), occasional movie nights, a Shrove Tuesday pancake dinner, and a spring retreat gave opportunities for all youth to come together for community, formation, and fun. Wednesday evenings also provided connection and formation for specific groups of youth:

- CantiAmo: A youth choir led by Mary Grace Schuster for 6th-9th graders.
- Ancestors: Led by David West, Jr., Brian Roark, and Bethany Michelson, a junior high bible study for getting to know each other and the people in Scripture.
- Journey Group: Facilitated by Steve and Heather Lefebvre, a small-group time for the high school students inviting each other to process, heal, and discover God's calling for their lives.

Steve and Father Christian Brady, Interim Rector, also co-led a Confirmation Class for students in 8th-12th grade.



*Led by Matthew Sullivan, the brave group of teens and adults who rafted the Occoe in September.*

May and early June was a painful, confusing time as the community grappled with the dismissal of Steve Lefebvre and the loss of the Lefebvre family from St. B's. Youth and parents, volunteers and staff, vestry members and Father Travis met together several times to begin the difficult work of seeking understanding, healing, and reconciliation. The youth demonstrated remarkable maturity and grace in how they honestly expressed their feelings and thoughts, were willing to be in conversation with the leadership, and provided support for each other. Youth volunteers Molly Cole, Lindsay Lee, and Meredith Powell provided wonderful support and encouragement to the youth throughout the summer, and alongside the Youth Parents Advisory Council (YPAC) facilitated house parties and

movie nights. The YPAC gave much time and extended so much grace as they worked together to care for the youth and plan for the fall.

In June, the YPAC invited Molly, Lindsay and Meredith to join their committee, and also created space for two teens (one young woman, one young man) to participate as well. Under the guidance of Father Travis, together they planned and implemented a program for the fall:

- Father Travis oversaw the Youth Ministry, and the vestry approved hiring Lindsay Lee as part-time "Youth Coordinator" to facilitate communication and coordinate volunteers and youth gatherings. Lindsay played a significant role in caring for the youth and programs throughout the fall.
- Matthew Sullivan envisioned, coordinated and led a Spirit-filled retreat rafting down the Occoe River.
- LOGOS continued through the fall, with a three week rotation of teachers by volunteers, Lindsay and Meredith, Shannon and Anna Truss, Randy Maclellan, Vernon Alexander, Sally Chambers, Matt Rhea, Molly Cole, and Mimi Heldman. Lindsay and Meredith provided a steady, reliable presence each Sunday.
- "Liturgy" on Sunday evenings was led by Matthew Sullivan, a time of gathering,

- “Liturgy” on Sunday evenings was led by Matthew Sullivan, a time of gathering, games, and a devotional.
- David West, Jr., Peter Roark, and Nancy West continued offering the junior high bible study on Wednesday evenings.
- The monthly SCGN continued as well thanks to the high schoolers, Lindsay Lee, and adult volunteers such as Adam Nunley, Sally Chambers, and Matt Rhea.
- Parents hosted a movie night and an Advent party.

The youth continued their active participation in our community in many ways. You heard them singing and playing piano and organ in the loft; you saw flowers behind the altar arranged by a some of them; you saw them serving as acolytes and crucifers; you attended gatherings while they cared for the



Ava Poindexter and Gracie Mennen are members of the flower guild.

children. Several times they served those experiencing homelessness, volunteering alongside Room in the Inn and Open Table. And they provide their presence and voices in each service, many gatherings and in-between spaces.

As is obvious from all the names mentioned above, volunteers were essential to the life of the youth ministry. It is important to acknowledge we said farewell one of our committed volunteers. In September, Molly Cole stepped down after over ten years – over ten years! – of mentoring and caring for our teens. We are deeply grateful to her for their love and commitment, and we’re glad they remain a part of the St. B’s community.

Without the selflessness of our volunteers, the investment and understanding of the parents, and the patience and grace of the youth themselves, St. B’s Youth Ministry would not have been the place of connection and growth that it was this past fall. Even so, by December it was evident that the model attempted was not sufficient to meet the needs of these important members of our community.

Father Sammy, soon after his arrival at St. B’s in November, said clearly that investing in the Youth Ministry and hiring a Director of Youth Formation was a high priority for him, and immediately began communicating with parents, volunteers, and youth. His plans for the first part of 2018 flow from these conversations:

- Throughout January, youth were invited to “Wednesdays at the Woods” for time

with Father Sammy and Renee, getting to know them and be known by them.

- Father Sammy has begun the process of searching for a new Director of Youth Ministry.
- Father Sammy has asked Father Travis to continue developing a volunteer team to love the youth. During this time, Father Travis will be the primary one responsible for teaching during LOGOS on Sunday mornings.

If you are among those who would like to spend time with our youth in any capacity, please be in touch with Father Travis.

### Contact

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# Adult Formation & Parish Life

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Of course all of St. B's practices and activities are geared toward the end of Christian formation in the context of rich fellowship and good fun. This often starts right in front of the coffee where conversations with friends often begin. Others prefer to linger with their spouse and Jesus on a prayer walk around the Stations of the Cross on the walking path. Still others hang around in the lobby with friends to share in good humor and/or counsel before sneaking in to grab a doughnut from Lifebuilders or Holy Eucharist.

Adult formation offerings in 2017 have varied from Sunday morning classes to Bible studies to prayer offerings.

The intergenerational *Lifebuilders* class has remained a staple for many through scriptural reflection in the context of community and the uncovering of what this means for building a day to day life with God. This past fall, Lifebuilders finally escaped the long bonds of Egyptian enslavement, guided by Resident Old Testament scholar, Vernon



*The Lifebuilders class on a Sunday morning*

Alexander, through exile in Genesis and Exodus straight up into the 3rd heaven of the New Covenant via an exploration of Hebrews. Coming up this Spring, life-builders hope to revisit their ongoing discussion about work and faith, hearing from a number of people in our community about how they integrate the two. The class is facilitated by Don Paul Gross and David West. For more information, please contact David at [dwest@equinoxis.com](mailto:dwest@equinoxis.com).

In the Fall of 2017, Father Travis coordinated a six week class on prayer, inviting different members of the St. B's community to take turns teaching and facilitating sessions on praying with and for others.

For the contemplative in all of us, let's not forget about *Centering Prayer* with Rick Wood, where one can make a deposit into the reservoir of silence and solitude in preparation for the busied week ahead. In the spring of 2017, Father Travis facilitated an early morning, pilot small group study of the Gospel of Mark, "8 Men, 8 Weeks, 1 Gospel."

Tim Villager, Marshall Weems, and Earl Ruley have continued their Thursday morning *Men's Study*, which started with an old testament study in the Spring but has now turned toward a review of French political scientist Alexis de Tocqueville's proclivity with American democracy.

The *Women's Bible Study* that meets every Thursday morning (childcare provided) has continued growing. Coordinated by Gretchen Abernathy, women take turns facilitating an in depth study of one book of the Bible. For 2017-2018, they have been studying Ezekiel, a study that will dovetail with the annual *Women's Retreat* in the spring of 2018. *The Women of St. B's* have continued to gather informally, such as the Advent celebration this past December and the Karen Burtch's book club. There remains an open space for God to call a team of women to finish planning and preparing for the upcoming Spring retreat, and to begin exploring what community for women at St. B's will be in this new season in the life of St. B's.

## Adult continued

You might think the men's ministry at St. B's has been a little quiet over the last couple years, but things are picking up. In the spring of 2017, Michael Neel, John Andrade, Brent Ferrell began gathering regularly at ML Rose (Franklin road) for a session of burgers and beers in a come-and-go casual time of conversation and company. "Third Tuesdays" were born and are now an open invitation to all men in the at St. B's.



*The Thursday morning women's Bible Study continues to grow both spiritually and numerically.*

And in more recent news, after a survey of the men in our parish, a small group of men started meeting together towards the end of 2017 to make plans for the long-awaited return of the annual Men's Retreat, led by Randy McLellan. The weekend is set for March 9 -11, 2018 and this year's location is the Timothy Hill Retreat Center overlooking beautiful Center Hill Lake, to be guided by speaker, Jeremy Williams. If you have questions, thoughts, or comments related to men's ministry, please email Fr. Travis at [thines@stbs.net](mailto:thines@stbs.net).

Supper Clubs continued through Spring of 2017, after which point Nyla Villager stepped down after over 10 years of coordinating. We are very grateful to her! Thank you, thank you Nyla! Allison Hardwick has picked up coordinating of supper clubs for 2017-2018 and over 70 St. B's parishioners are involved.

Lynn Ferguson and Sally Chambers continue hosting a gathering once every six weeks at Lynn's place. This is an alternative supper club with an open door policy – come when you can and if you want. It is primarily focused on adults without children in 20's/30's/40's. Lynn also invites a few of her peers to help build community across generations. This has also been a great place for welcoming newcomers and helping them feel more connected beyond Sunday.

### Newcomers

St. B's offered two newcomer lunches in 2017. The first held in the spring was canceled due to lack of RSVPs. The second held in September took on a different format. It was less formal and included two new couples, the Associate Rector, Communications Director and her husband. This informal format and smaller group allowed for more intimate conversation and lots of Q&A. 2018 is likely to bring some revisions in how we welcome newcomers. Father Sammy already sends a personal note to each person who fills out a visitor card. If you would like to help newcomers feel welcome and part of St. B's family, please email Sally at [schambers@stbs.net](mailto:schambers@stbs.net).

### Feasts and Fellowship

As in year's past, St. B's continues to know how to throw a party, especially when orchestrated by Sally Chambers! A special thanks to the many who served as set up and take down crews for these events, from blowing up red balloons, cooking chili, to baking cookies. These events included the Pentecost Party, St. B's Day, and the annual Epiphany Celebration: Chili Cook-Off and Bonfire. In addition to these events, St. B's, via transition coordinator Bev Mahan "pounded" the Woods family home stocking them for this new season with goods, spirits, and encouragement. Sally again led the fold in hosting a special *Welcome to the Woods* reception for Father Sammy and the crew with state of Tennessee and guitar-shaped cookies to welcome them to Nashville.

Some of the richest opportunities for adult formation happen in the context of service from volunteers with RITI to various ministries and outreach that grow out of St. B's interest in serving the local community and world. It promises to be a great year of ongoing hospitality, fellowship, increasing depth of community, reflection, formation, and play at St. B's in 2018 and beyond!

### Contact

**Andy Michels**

*Vestry Representative*

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*St. B's Day: A celebration of who we are and the end of summer.*



*Held inside in 2017, the Pentecost Party was still marked with games, props, strawberry shortcake, balloons, and lots of red.*



# Mission & Outreach

The church has been called to be the hands and feet of Jesus in the world. One way we do this is by giving time, money and talents where we are lead to do so. At St. B's, we move into this calling through the work of the M & O committee, (Mission and Outreach). Our goal for our committee members is, on behalf of St. B's congregants, to cultivate relationships with our mission partners to understand their needs as we have the privilege of coming alongside the work they are doing in the US and abroad. In addition, we desire to educate the St. B's community about needs and opportunities to engage their gifts in service. The kingdom of God comes nearer as we, the church, serve and learn from those to whom we are called.

In 2017, the committee grew from 8 to 12 members, reflecting the desired emphasis on Missions and Outreach within the St. B's community. Beth Heimburger and Michelle Becker, as co-chairs, were joined by Terry Blankenship, Aaron Kipp, Robert Pullen, Mary Ann Ruley, Phil Shay (finance guru), Jay Siegrist, David West, Nancy West, Deborah Whiteside (bulletin board caretaker), and Micah Weedman.

We want to thank those who have finished their term on the committee. Mary Ann Ruley has served faithfully and has been absolutely essential to communications. To our delight, Nancy West had agreed to serve an extra year through 2017. Both Nancy and Mary Ann will be rotating off at the end of 2017 and will be greatly missed. David West, whose term ended in 2017, has agreed to stay on for an additional year.

Since we welcomed six new members at the beginning of 2017 instead of the usual 3, we started off the year with a ½ day retreat. This retreat will become a yearly event for orientation and building community. In 2018, we are so thankful to welcome three new members for a three-year term beginning 2018: John Allen, Amy Nelson and Matthew Sullivan.

## Mission Partners

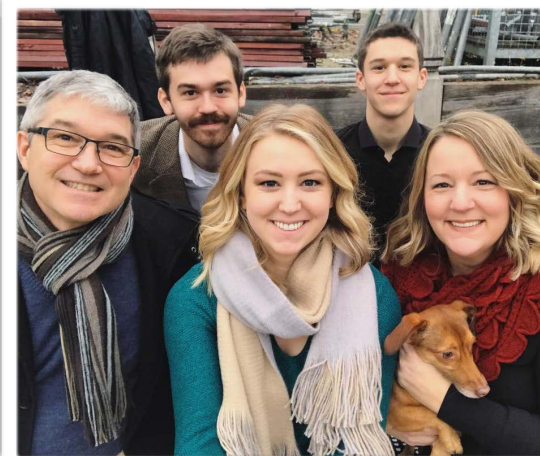
Every year the committee reviews applications submitted by our partner organizations and funding recommendations are presented to the vestry. The 16 mission partners receiving monthly support from St. B's are: Dana and Dave Mennen with Cru/Bridges International; Charis Ministries; Room in the Inn; Don Paul Gross with Intervarsity Christian Fellowship; Thistle Farms; New Life Restoration Ministries (Kenya); Open Table of Nashville, Inc; Rooftop Foundation; Bishop Grant and Wendy LeMarquand with SAMS (Ethiopia); Nathan Lee with Send Musicians to Prison; Siloam Family Health Center; STARS; St. Luke's Community Center; Susan and Mark Powell with Teach Beyond (Europe); Trinity School for Ministry and Young Life Urban Ministry of Nashville.

We used discretionary funds to meet some unexpected needs for five of our partners and to allow one-time gifts to Rejoice Ministries and The Contributor.

Each mission partner is assigned to a committee member liaison. Liaisons

maintain regular communications with ministry contacts, conduct site visits where possible, and bring prayer requests, urgent concerns and needs to the committee. Quarterly reports are submitted by each mission partner. Our hope is to provide ongoing emotional support as well as financial support to those who are serving.

St. B's continues to serve as the sending church for Susan and Mark Powell, who have served with Teach Beyond in Germany since 2008 and are members of St. B's. We welcomed Kendra and John Allen home from their year in Uganda with International Justice Mission and served as their sending church for their year away.



*The entire Powell family was reunited in Germany for Christmas. Clockwise, L to R: Mark, Ethan, Evan, Susan, Zoey, the dog, and Meredith.*



*Backpacks stacked high in a donation bin for the St. Luke's back to school drive.*

### Congregation Participation

Several parish members made short-term mission trips and were able to visit with mission partners. Morgan Wills Sr. and Jr. visited the Allens in Uganda. David and Millie West and Mary Ann and Earl Ruley visited the Powells in Germany. Heather and Stephen James and family went to Kenya for a short-term mission trip in April.

Several donation drives gave the congregation opportunities to enthusiastically support our partners. We had a food drive for Charis and collected over 1200 pounds of

food!!!! We had a refugee kit drive for Siloam and two drives for St. Luke's: a backpack drive and a toy drive.

Nashville Neighbors is an innovative outreach program to newly arrived refugee families, orchestrated by Siloam. Matthew Sullivan will be the point person for this.

St. B's Preschool is also collecting offerings for the children ministered to by New Life Restoration Ministries in Kenya. Paul and Grace Mbithi, founders of NLRM, were able to meet with people from St. B's and speak to the children at chapel while they were in the US.



*Pastor Paul of NLRM visits with preschool children on his visit to the U.S.*

We look forward to more opportunities to connect with, serve and support our partners in the year going forward. Please keep an eye on the M&O update in the St. B's weekly!

### 2018 Committee Members:

Beth Heimburger (Chair)  
Michele Becker (Co-Chair)  
Phil Shay (Finances)  
Terry Blankenship  
Aaron Kipp  
Robert Pullen  
Jay Siegrist  
Micah Weednman  
David West, Jr.  
Debra Whiteside  
John Allen  
Amy Nelson  
Matthew Sullivan  
Father Travis Hines - staff advisor

### Contact

**Eddie Latimer**  
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**Beth Heimburger**  
M&O Committee Chair  
**Michelle Becker**  
[mission@stbs.net](mailto:mission@stbs.net)



# Pastoral Care

The Pastoral Care ministries of St. B's have the mission to bring the presence of Christ to those in our community who are hurting, sick, homebound, or in crisis. In everything, we give thanks to God the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves receive from God (2 Cor1: 2-4).

Broadly speaking, pastoral care is an outgrowth of many expressions of love that arise from living in community, as Christ directs each of us. Other pastoral care ministries at St B's are more intentional and fall under the umbrella of the Pastoral Care Team, coordinated by Robert Smith, volunteer assistant to Father Travis, Rector for Pastoral Care. These include the following ministries, with key 2017 facilitators noted:

- **St. B's Praying People and the Prayer Desk:** A team of about 35 volunteers at the Prayer Desk assist worshipers needing prayer and support or who want to give God praise and thanks during Sunday morning services. St. B's Praying People is a group of individuals who commit to serve their church by interceding as requested via email.
- **Lay Eucharistic Visitation:** Lay Eucharistic visitors are commissioned on the first Sunday of each month to take communion to those who are physically apart from the church body. They often develop meaningful relationship while experiencing the truth of "where two or three are gathered together in My name, there I am with them." Father Travis developed an online system to help the team identify needs and to keep track of pastoral care activities.
- **Manna Ministry:** The Manna ministry organizes volunteers to provide meals for those in the St. B's family during times of illness or other needs.
- **Bereavement Ministry:** The St. B's Bereavement Committee facilitates hospitality for funerals at the church.
- **Benevolence Ministry:** Through this ministry, the clergy are able to provide financial help in times of practical need that arise

within the community. Although specific needs were met on many occasions, budget shortfalls in 2017 put a stress on resources.

- **Newborn Families Ministry.** Gaylene Latham, Nursery Director, organizes volunteers to provide meals for families with newborn babies. Technically this area falls under Family and Children's Formation. Last year, the Manna and Newborn Families Ministries delivered over 150 meals. Additionally, Father Dave brings communion and prays with each family after the birth of their child.
- **Anointing of Oil:** Every Wednesday at the 12:15 Eucharist and sometimes on Sundays, Fr. Dave is available to offer the sacrament of unction, the anointing with oil and the laying on of hands for healing.



*Fr. Dave anointing and laying hands at the conclusion of the Wednesday, midday Eucharist.*

- **Pastoral Counseling:** St. B's clergy provide pastoral counseling to individuals, couples and families and recommend outside counseling when circumstances so indicate.

2017 was a year of transition after the departure of Father Jerry in 2016. The parish survey identified several areas of need and opportunity with regard to pastoral care. In particular, the top priorities voiced through the survey have strong ties to pastoral care:

*1. Develop the spiritual generosity of the church to financially support the ministry of the church.* The culture of giving at St. B's will determine the mission of the church with regard to staffing and the availability of funds for benevolence and other pastoral care activities.

*2. Develop ministries to minister to those broken by life circumstances.* With the arrival of Father Sammy, we expect the vision for such ministries will take shape. In addition, the pastoral care team believes that the promise of healing in Christ is not fully realized until we, the broken, engage in ministering to others. We are therefore looking for ways to recruit and equip individuals to minister to others, for example by prayer, Eucharistic lay visitation, or providing meals.

*3. Develop and implement a comprehensive strategy to reach new people and incorporate them into the life of the church.* The number of volunteers involved in pastoral care at St. B's is truly impressive. Let us celebrate pastoral care as something we do in community, as an essential part of the life of the church.

*The contents of Lay Eucharistic Visitor kit. LEVs are given the kit after Communion on fourth Sundays and commissioned to carry communion to those unable to be present for worship.*

### Contact

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#### Fr. Sammy Wood

Rector  
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#### Suzie Woolwine

Bereavement Ministry  
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#### Fr. Travis Hines

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#### Mindy Mumme

Manna Ministry  
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#### Robert Smith

Assistant for Pastoral Care  
[pastoralcare@stbs.net](mailto:pastoralcare@stbs.net)





# The Bookstore

St. B's Bookstore continued its important role of community and Christ-centered commerce in 2017. In addition to books for all ages, the bookstore offers items sold on consignment from a number of St. B's members. Two outside vendors also consign: the Olive Wood Project, which helps support employment of adults with special needs in Bethlehem, and artist Mary Margaret Hickman.

The book that sold the most copies in 2017 was the Thursday morning women's group study book Ezekiel.

This year also saw a modest and cozy sprucing up of the bookstore, making the space even more inviting for fellowship and book shopping between services. "Our new red chairs do

encourage folks to stop and visit," says bookstore manager Allison Hardwick, who credits St. B's member Mimi Heldman with the inspiration for the improvements. Tootsie Rolls are still dispensed, each with a "please" and a "thank you."

The bookstore dates from the 1960s, when church secretary Mary Alice Parker launched it, stocking prayer books, cards, and James Avery jewelry.

St. B's members Rusty Grant, John Insani, and Mavis Harrop have all served as bookstore volunteers in 2017. Allison Hardwick will celebrate 20 years as the bookstore manager in the fall of 2018.

## Bookstore Hours

**Monday - Friday**  
9:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

**Sunday**  
*in harmony  
with service times*

## Contact

### Yvonne Poindexter

*Vestry Representative*

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### Allison Hardwick

*Bookstore Manager*

377-4750 ext. 105

[stbbooks@stbs.net](mailto:stbbooks@stbs.net)



*In November, 2017, Amy Nelson and Molly Cole coordinated a Arts Fair to support both St. B's artisans and the bookstore.*



# The Preschool and P.D.O.

The St. B's Preschool started the 2017-2018 school year strong with "an amazing fall," according to Preschool Director Kelly Hull. Indeed, the Preschool's first semester was full of learning, community building, and fun.

Teachers report 10 days before the start of school for classroom preparation and in-service. "Throughout the semester, we work hard, helping each student—from the youngest to the oldest—feel safe, loved, and excited about being at school," says Kelly.

Soon, students (and teachers) were enjoying a number of fun events in the fall, kicking things off with the school's annual Mulch Day. Each year, the program's faithful dads cover the playground with mulch, making it safe for all the kids. October brings Farm Day to St B's. This year's celebration introduced a new petting zoo that included a llama and an alpaca!

The annual Fall Ball helps the Preschool build community among its families. For this event in 2017, the playground was decked with twinkly lights and families enjoyed a giant, inflatable slide, a bonfire, and a hotdog dinner. Parents were also able to visit their children's classrooms to see all they had been learning and doing.

The Preschool also enjoyed Outdoor Classroom day in the fall of 2017. Preschool students and their teachers spent the entire day outside. They explored sensory bins, built with pipes and connectors, made creations out of boxes and duct tape, played pots and pans to make music, and traced shadows.

A very meaningful addition to Preschool program in 2017 is an offering time during chapel. The school has joined others at St. Bs in supporting Rev. Paul

Mbithi and New Life Restoration Ministries, benefitting children and others in Kenya. The children even had the privilege of meeting Pastor Paul while he was in the States.

The Preschool concluded the fall 2017 semester with its annual Christmas program—a wonderful night of worship and welcoming the Christmas season.



*St. B's Preschool children performing with bells and sticks at their Easter Program.*

## Contact

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### **Kelly Hull**

*Director*

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615.377.4633

## Preschool by the Numbers

Students: 101

Families: 76

Staff: 17

Classrooms: 9

Student ages: 15 mos - 5 yrs

Crackers consumed:

40 boxes

Milk consumed: 80 gallons

Songs sung: At least 200

Band-aids applied: 25



# The Homeschool Tutorial

The St. B's Homeschool Tutorial has had a wonderful first semester in a year of growth and change. Last May 2017, the program graduated six students who had completed our first three-year Montessori cycle. This led the Tutorial to prayerfully consider opening the program to students beyond our immediate St. B's family. Slowly but surely, God opened doors to include four new homeschooled students who attend other churches. The Tutorial's seven St. B's kids warmly welcomed their new students, extending the group's sense of community and family. The Tutorial gathers each Tuesday and Thursday, September through May, to study cultural and physical geography, science, art, writing, and Scripture through Catechesis of the Good Shepherd. This year we are focusing on South America, Africa, Asia and Australia/Oceania in geography. In science, our studies include Plant Growth and Development, Building Structures, Kitchen Chemistry, and Animal Classification. The Tutorial also seeks to connect with others in the St. B's community through their Thanksgiving Feast and World Day, to serve the greater Nashville community through Room in the Inn, and to love one another with kindness and patience.

The Homeschool Tutorial staff includes St. B's members Deborah Whiteside, Catechesis lead teacher and teaching assistant, Corinne Michel, art teacher, Audrey and Clara Weedman, teaching assistants, and Meredith Flynn, director and lead teacher.

"The love and time that each of these women pour into the children and their natural love for learning is truly evidence of the unfolding of the

Kingdom," says Meredith. "We 'do small things with great love'."

Now in its fourth year as a self-funded ministry of St. B's, the Tutorial looks forward to inviting more homeschooled children to join us to maintain a community of between 12 and 16 children. "We experience such joy in learning and we are in awe of the plan of God in creation, in people and cultures, and in one another!" says Meredith

## Contact

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*Vestry Representative*

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**Meredith Flynn**

*Homeschool Tutorial Director*

[homeschooltutorial@stbs.net](mailto:homeschooltutorial@stbs.net)



*Meredith Flynn and the 2016-2017 Tutorial in May on World Day. Each child created an interactive display including food samples from their chosen country. The entire St. B's family is invited to attend World Day.*



# Facilities

“Volunteer” seems to be the word for 2017. Several projects would not have been done without the help of many volunteers from our congregation. With budget shortfalls restricting us throughout 2017, it was essential for us, as a congregation, to give of time and talent in order to accomplish some of our goals.

We started 2017 with volunteers helping finish Celebration Hall (formerly known as the gym): installing trim, painting, and hanging. Several doors in our facility had also outlived their usefulness and were either replaced or repaired this year.



*“Stair-stepping” on the walking path installed by volunteers in May.*

In May, a group of approximately 20 volunteers helped repair and remodel our walking path. Trees that had died were removed

eventually needing to be replaced. Parts of the path that were installed with help from Jerry and Marjie when they first came to St. B's had eroded badly. Volunteers helped install “stair-stepping” and new gravel to level the path.

The project to upgrade our lighting in the sanctuary was completed in 2017 with the addition of new LED chancel lighting. Donations and volunteer work kept the bill to about 1/3 of what it might have been, and will lower our electric and heating bills.

Volunteers also accomplished a task that has been needed for 20 years: cleaning out the boiler room and reorganizing our storage.

Another big event in 2017 was the successful giving campaign for the Organ Fund. Thanks to a unique opportunity from our organ company, we raised enough money to virtually complete our organ in 2018. We look forward to hearing the finished product in Easter of 2018. Thanks to all who gave above and beyond their regular tithe for this project.



*Organ renovations will begin In Lent of 2018. Stops now taped over will be operational when the work is complete.*

## Facilities continued

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We still have much to accomplish in order to feel like good stewards of our facility. A partial list includes:

- Celebration Hall roof repairs
- Repaving the lower parking lot
- Repair and refinishing our pews
- Gutter repairs and basement waterproofing to prevent flooding in the pre-school.
- Sanctuary roof repair
- Reseal upper parking lot
- Repairs to broken main sewer line

Expenditures for these needed projects would exceed \$100,000. We do not currently have or project having the funds to do these projects in 2018.

Thank you to those who have served in the past on the Facilities Committee. *If you would be interesting in serving in 2018 or future years, please contact Steve Heaston or Chris Prichard.*

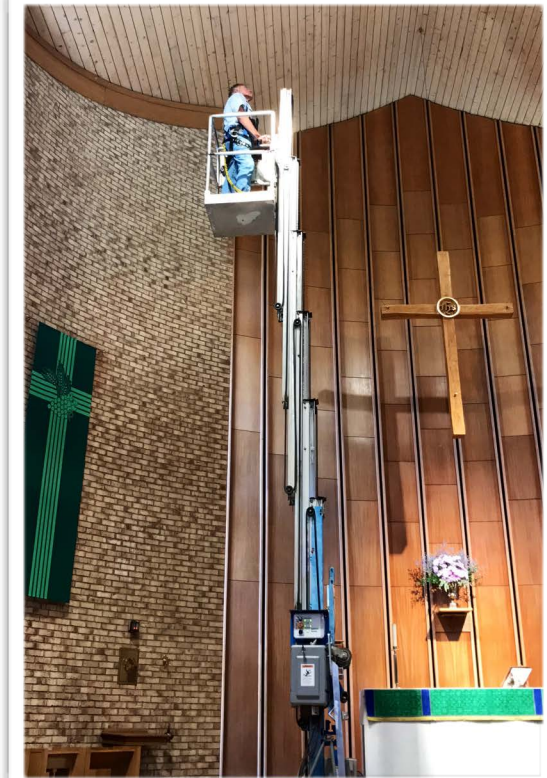
### Contact

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**Chris Prichard**  
Chair  
[csprichard@yahoo.com](mailto:csprichard@yahoo.com)

### Facilities Committee

Steve Heaston (vestry liaison)  
Chris Prichard (chair)  
Mimi Heldman  
Nancy Cason, ex officio  
Tim Villager, ex officio



*Upgrading the lighting in the sanctuary was no small (or short) task.*



# Community Relations

*Community: The acts of fellowship with others in close proximity, sharing common attributes, interests, and goals.*

For many years, St. Bartholomew's has shown a great appreciation for the value of reaching out to the local community to share our facilities and create bonds with our neighbors and fellow Nashville area citizens... to love our neighbors as ourselves. We have had a long-standing engagement with two outstanding organizations, St. Bartholomew's Soccer Academy (SBSA) and Jazzercise.

Since 2008, St. Bartholomew's Soccer Academy have used the fields on our grounds to help children develop personal, teamwork and problem-solving skills and to instill a love of the game of soccer. Children aged 3 to 5 play games of 3 on 3. With fewer players on the field, players get to touch the ball more, develop skills faster, learn the game of soccer more quickly and have more fun. SBSA is one of the few leagues in Nashville to offer small-sided games. Coached by Charles Morrow, men's soccer coach for Lipscomb University, his



*Men and Women from a morning Jazzercise class.*

former assistant, Kevin Burk, and several student helpers from Lipscomb, this program has become a perennial favorite with the children and their parents. With 2 seasons per year and more than 64 children playing in each season, the impact of St. Bartholomew's Soccer Academy reaches well beyond our parish and facilities. The program has provided equipment and clothing for St. B's Mission Partner, New Life Restoration Ministry in Kenya. The announcement of a MLS expansion team in Nashville should further ignite interest in this program.

The other program sharing our facilities is a local franchise of Jazzercise that has been led by Mary Helen Yarborough for over 10 years in Celebration Hall, a.k.a. the gym. Jazzercise provides a variety of aerobics and dance fitness routines and brings a intergenerational group of men and women from all over Nashville to the church, six days a week, all year long. Classes can easily exceed 70 people dancing, exercising, and improving their mental health. Mary Helen has changed hundreds of people's lives by getting them to kick up their heels and Jazzercise. Mary Helen, who has been with Jazzercise for 37 years, tithes monthly to St. B's, offers free membership to staff, and has a handful of parishioners in her classes. Interestingly, class members not from St. B's have participated with Room in the Inn and other M&O donation drives. They also frequent our bookstore.

Both programs allow people from the neighborhood and beyond to see what God is doing at St. B's. The Vestry has written a Facility Use document to help guide the safe and economical use of our facilities for the enjoyment by our parishioners and the broader community. By using our facilities, there is an invitation to come and share in the love we experience through Christ Jesus.

## Contact

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# Staff

You may not be aware that a new Vestry liaison position was established in 2017 - liaison to the staff - and you may be surprised to know that such a position had not already existed. This past year was one of transition for St. B's, with the search for and hiring of a new rector, the time with our interim rector, Fr. Christian, and the dismissal of director of youth formation Steven Lefebvre. In fact, it was that latter action that led to the establishment of this new liaison position in October 2017, and I was asked to serve in that role.

The goal is to make sure important communications between the Vestry and staff happen in a timely and accurate manner. The liaison acts as a conduit between staff and the Vestry, and attends at least one of the full staff meetings each month, helping both to work well together.

One accomplishment this fall was to help with investigation of health insurance options for staff. Through this process, each full time staff member was equipped to make the best decision for their personal health insurance and health care for themselves and their families.

To give you more insight into the functioning of staff at St. B's, in 2017 there were eight full-time, 11 part-time, three volunteer and a handful of contract positions.

The full time staff positions include Rector, Associate Rector, Director of Children's Formation, Director of Music, Director of Youth Formation, Director of Communications,

Executive Assistant to the Rector, and Administrator for Finance and Music.

Part time staff positions include bookstore manager, organist, audio engineer, nursery director, youth coordinator, and children's ministry staff. St. B's also has three volunteer staff positions: Bev Mahan serves as Assistant to the Rector for Liturgy, Robert Smith serves as Assistant for Pastoral Care and Fr. Stu Phillips assists during the liturgy on Sunday mornings. In addition, St. B's contracts for lead nursery workers, bulletin creation, and clerical pastoral assistant. It is interesting to note that both the Preschool and the Homeschool Tutorial are self-supporting ministries and pay for their own staff.

Two full staff meetings and two leadership team meetings were held each month. The leadership team has traditionally been comprised of the Rector, Associate, and the Directors of Children, Youth, Music, and Communications. Their purpose is to support the Rector in discerning and responding to the needs of the community, in planning for our life together according to the liturgical year, and in clarifying and implementing the vision and mission of St. B's.

2017 brought a renewed initiative to review and revise if necessary staff job descriptions. By the close of the year, most staff had already met individually with Fr. Sammy to discuss their job descriptions and set goals for the coming year.

Looking forward, 2018 will see the position, Director of Youth Formation, filled, Fr. Sammy growing in his new role as Rector, staff renewed after two years of transition, and the relationship between clergy, staff, and vestry strengthened.

## Contact

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Vestry Representative  
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*Members of the staff supporting their Preschool colleagues on Farm Day held every fall at St. B's.*

## The Seal of St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church

*The banner, commissioned for the 60th anniversary of St. Bartholomew's and in dedication of the Rev. Dixon Kinser's ministry, tells the story of who we are.*

**The Three Knives:** Knives are the historic symbol of the apostle Bartholomew for whom we are named. The blades represent the manner of his martyrdom, which was death by flaying.

**St. George's Cross:** The red cross on white is known as St. George's Cross. It has been a symbol of the British nation and kingdom dating back to the middle ages, and therefore points to our Anglican heritage and communion membership. When E.P. Dandridge, first rector of Christ Church Cathedral, became bishop of the Diocese, he called upon members of St. George's parish for help in planting this church.

**Chi Rho:** Underneath the cross to the right is the Chi Rho. These are the first two letters of the Greek word Christos (Christ), and they proclaim our allegiance to Jesus above all else. The Chi Rho symbolizes Christ and our shared roots with Christ Church Cathedral.



**Bushel of Wheat:** This is the classical symbol of the harvest, and biblically always relates to evangelism. It is a historic symbol for the feast of Pentecost, and provides a nod to St. Bartholomew's rich charismatic heritage. It also represents the Diocese of TN because the same image adorns the old Diocesan crest.

**Seven Hills:** The seven alternating green and gold stripes represent the Seven Hills neighborhood in which our church is located.

**The Colors:** The colors of the banner were selected to match and complement the magnificent jewel tones in our current stained glass windows. The Chi Rho and Bushel of Wheat symbols can also be found in our windows.

**Inverted Reredos:** Finally, the shape of the whole banner mirrors an inverted version of our sanctuary's reredos, the large section of wooden panels behind the altar. Our banner shape is a mirror image of this focal point, and hints at the bow shaped roof so prominent in our nave.

Prepared for St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church  
by the Vestry, January 2018



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