

THE BRANCH

THE NEWSLETTER OF ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH



*Take part in the Ezra Project this fall as we renew the life of our community.
Restoring, challenging and sending,
through study, worship and community reflection.*

Welcome Fall

"I am the vine; you are the branches. If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing. This is to my Father's glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples." *John 15:5,8 NIV*

Our Mission

We are a family of believers (kingdom community), on a journey to the fulfillment of our God-given purpose.

Our mission is:

- 1) To bring people to know Jesus Christ;
- 2) To provide clear and life-changing discipleship training;
- 3) To help people discern their life's purpose and provide opportunities for them to fulfill that purpose in ministry and mission. The fruit of our endeavor is that God be glorified in all the world (worship).



St. Bartholomew's
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Staff

Clergy:

The Rev. Dr. Jerry Smith, *Rector*

The Rev. Dixon Kinser, *Assistant Rector for
Youth & Young Adult Formation*

The Rev. David Wilson, *Pastoral Associate*

The Rev. Ian Morgan Cron, *Liturgical Associate*

Office:

Pam White, *Director of Operations*

Jane Long, *Office Manager*

Annie Heyward, *Administrative Assistant*

Teresa Robinson, *Childcare Coordinator*

Parish Ministry:

Carla Schober, *Director for Family & Children's
Formation*

Sally Chambers, *Director of Communications*

Bev Mahan, *Verger & Assistant to the Rector for Liturgy*

Robert Smith, *Assistant to the Rector for Pastoral Care*

Meredith Flynn, *Children's Formation Assistant*

Shelby Hoggard, *Children's Formation Assistant*

Gaylene Latham, *Nursery Coordinator*

Elizabeth Madeira, *Elementary Coordinator*

Matt Rhea, *Preschool Coordinator*

Shari Smyth, *Catechist Coordinator*

St. B's Bookstore:

Allison Hardwick, *Manager*

Preschool & Mother's Day Out:

Suzy Floyd, *Preschool Director*

Music:

Eric Wyse, *Director of Music*

David Madeira, *Associate Director of Music*

Teresa Robinson, *Administrative Assistant*

Vestry

Dorman Burtch, *Sr Warden*; Trey Myatt, *Jr. Warden*.

Judson Abernathy, Carmen Hall, Matt Hardy, Vanessa Hardy, Dennis Holt, Ashley MacLachlan, Kay Morreale, Larissa Root, Rachel Sefton, Whitney Stone, Adam Wirdzek

Dan Cleary, *Treasurer*; Gary Mumme, *clerk*.

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Dorman Burtch and Sean Root presenting the key for the mini van to Fr. Randy at the Men's Breakfast in July. St. B's donated the van to All Saints in Smyrna for their ministry with Karen Refugees.

A very special thank you to Christie Holmes who designed and created the art for the Ezra Project.



The Ezra Project @ St. B's.

The New Phase of the Journey

My wife Marjie, and I spend a lot of time in the car.

Commutes to work are short, but our trips to visit our children and grandchildren take over 10 hours and we often try to accomplish these trips in one "sitting."

We have taken to listening to audio books to make the trip seem shorter. Now some purists argue that listening isn't the same as reading but I would disagree. There have been times when we have driven around the block, or parked in a mall lot in order to finish a captivating chapter.

On our trip home this summer we listened to an amazing offering by Philip Beard called Dear Zoe. Without giving away the whole story, this book is a series of letters written by a pubescent girl to her deceased baby sister. This same sister actually becomes both her confessor as well as her mirror through which she begins to come to some new self-awareness.

Of all the books we have listened to this summer (there seems to have been quite a number) I keep going back to this one as having been the best.

I am intrigued by Tess's need (that's the older sister, the writer of the letters) to have a close friend with whom she can share her life and yet know that she isn't being judged. It is equally revealing that Tess is able to begin to understand herself just by the self-disclosure that happens.

There is a lot of Tess in all of us, I suspect.

Understanding comes with self-disclosure and healing comes when we know that these personal revelations will not involve judgment or punitive action.

Isn't that the way it is suppose to be with Jesus? It is also supposed to be that way in His Body, the church!

There is healing in unconditional love and there is also increasing self-awareness, when we are desirous of the same. Sadly, the mantra of many is, "love me as I am because I'm not changing". There seems to be a sense of entitlement that the



world revolves around us rather than us being participants in the unfolding of God's Kingdom.

With genuine self-awareness should come the desire to grow in our understanding of how the Kingdom is unfolding in our midst. These self-discoveries should bring a discontentment at staying the same.

Thankfully the unconditional love of Jesus brings with it, the overwhelming power of the Holy Spirit, who enables, even facilitates the change that maturing demands. All so that we might all be made into the image of Jesus.



KINGDOM TALK

by Fr. Jerry Smith
Rector

And that is the goal that our journey is toward. God's goal for us is to be transformed into the image and likeness of His Son (see Romans 8) and our pilgrimage is about allowing the love of God to have full sway in our lives so that this might be realized.

This is precisely what the "Ezra Project" is inviting us to focus on. The Nehemiah Project was to rebuild the physical fabric of our buildings at St B's and now we are to be expending our energy on rebuilding the temple of the Holy Spirit, our lives in Christ.

Tess (in Dear Zoe) caught a glimpse of who she really was while communicating to her sister. This season, spend some time intentionally becoming aware of who you really are; of how much God really loves you, and then allow the Holy Spirit who is calling you, to continue to transform you into the temple that will bring God glory.

Jerry

The Ezra Project



Monk-ey Business

Benedict and St. B's



**LIVING
PRAYER**
by Morgan
Wills



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Is it just me? Or are monks secretly invading St. B's?

Whether it's Father Dixon leading a group of young adults in solemn vows before the congregation, silent guided retreats with the Passionist nuns in Kentucky, or film nights about a group of self-sacrificing monks in Algeria (*Of Gods and Men*—a fantastic film by the way!), there seem to be an increasing number of reminders to our congregation about all things monastic.

What's a good evangelical Protestant to make of all this?! Perhaps it's less of an issue for the lifelong Anglicans or former Catholics among us. But for those of us who were formed primarily in the lower-church realms of Protestantism, all this talk can be a little confusing. Didn't Martin Luther make it clear that monasteries were misguided at best and a tool of the devil at worst?

Well, it is a little more complicated than that. Many things, not least the liturgical worship at St. B's, have helped me to appreciate the monastic way of life over recent years. I am increasingly intrigued, but I still have lots of questions. Thus, I was glad to have the opportunity to take an elective class this summer on Benedictine Spirituality (as a part of some ongoing coursework at Regent College, Vancouver).

The course was taught by Dennis Okholm—an ordained Presbyterian and former Wheaton College professor who is also an oblate (lay

associate) of a Benedictine monastery in North Dakota. And it went a long way towards explaining the history, attributes, and attractiveness of the Benedictine way of life for Christians of all backgrounds today.

I came away enriched—and surprised. I learned that the 6th c. Rule of St. Benedict was originally intended for laypeople. I also learned that Benedict crafted the Rule as a means of immersing his often-illiterate followers in the words of Jesus. Stability. Obedience. Conversion of Life. These timeless monastic virtues certainly have something to say to us today



St. Benedict

as much as they did 1500 years ago!

I was blessed enough by the various readings for the course that I thought I would offer a teaser on several of them for the congregation. So, below are a few gems for anyone interested in learning more

about the contemplative spirituality of the Benedictines.

A "Benedictine Sampler"

The first is Okholm's own book, *Monk Habits for Everyday People: Benedictine Spirituality for Protestants*. It is a slim and accessible primer, and, as the title implies, it is written with (suspicious?) evangelical Protestants in mind. The historical afterword, "Why the Protestant Reformers Opposed Monasticism," is particularly helpful.

Many of you may already be familiar with *The Cloister Walk*, the bestseller by Kathleen Norris. Norris is a poet who writes in beautiful, impressionistic style about her life as an oblate at a Benedictine monastery in Minnesota. It is particularly appealing to secular or post-modern reader, as it recounts Norris' own journey to authentic Christian faith through her vicarious experience of monasticism.

Longtime Episcopalians who are interested in reconnecting with the Benedictine roots of Anglican spirituality may particularly enjoy the classic *Seeking God: The Way of St. Benedict* by Esther de Waal. The author—a historian, wife, and mother of four—was one of the pioneers in translating the principles of St. Benedict

continued on pg. 6



Saying Goodbye

A wise man once said that while loss brings change, change also brings loss. This is why there is sometimes a sense of melancholy in our times of transitions. When we say hello to something new we often have say good-bye to something else and that has certainly been the case in saying goodbye to my assistant, partner in ministry, and friend Steven Lefebvre.

I first met Steve when he was a junior in college. He was a friend with a few of the young adults that volunteered in the youth ministry and they brought him around thinking he would really like what we do. I guess they were right because, nearly five years later Steve has become a staff member, valued ministry contributor and irreplaceable part of our life here at St. B's (who will we find that laughs as loud as Steve, right? No one). Now, as he transitions into a new ministry in Murfreesboro I have a new set of responsibilities on my plate. Not only do I need to attend to all youth and young adult ministry needs by myself but I have to consider what kind of person I might hire next to fill this position. This coupled with the potential changes we want to make in the position itself has made life very busy and full of

prayer. All this is due to Steve's departure because indeed, **loss means change.**

Steve's new church is a vibrant community of faith with a long history of solid youth ministry not unlike St. B's. While there, he will be able to stretch his wings and utilize his gifts to their full potential. However, even with all that said I will miss Steve. This change makes me a little sad because someone I love and trust will not be part of my life (and sharing my office!) everyday. This reality is not bad. It just is but underscores the reality that **change also means loss.**

So, in reflecting on all this I just want to say publically that I am as happy for Steve as I am sad to see him go. This process of taking people in, nurturing their gifts and then sending them out for ministry is part of our calling here at St. Bartholomew's. Jesus tells his disciples at one point not to "hold on to him" because the point of his ministry was not to do everything himself, but instead to share and empower his disciples to act as he has.

The same is true for Steve's transition to Murfreesboro. We have enjoyed his gifts and talents with us for a season but now it is time to release



A MISSIONAL LIFE

by Fr. Dixon Kinser

Assistant Rector for Youth & Young Adult Formation

him to minister elsewhere.

Thanks Steven for your ministry and thanks to all of you at St. B's for being such a great and formational community of faith.

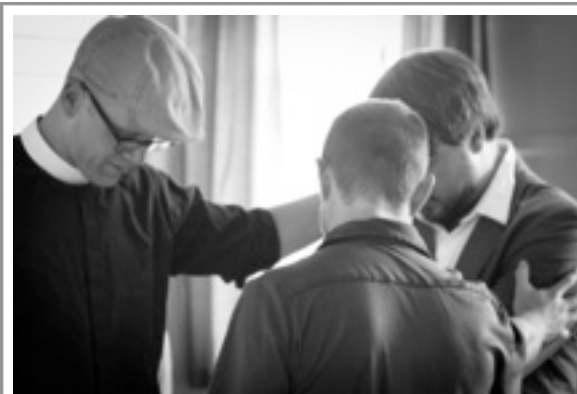
Shalom,
D+

Loss means change. Did you know that Steve helped keep Morning Prayer happening every day at St. B's?

Who will be part of the change?



Steve with Young Adults from St. B's



Commissioning Steve on his last Sunday



Season's Greetings

From the Warden

We are a people of seasons, traditions and habits: welcome back... to school, back to work; back to football, school colors, fall traditions, and back to church.

In the church calendar, this year we've already come through Advent, Epiphany, Lent, Easter and Pentecost. As we "get back on schedule" (as some would say), we are now in what is known as "The Season After Pentecost." To this season I hope and trust that we're bringing forward some new traditions, newfound gifts, new energy and some new habits.

To this end, I hope that we have already and will continue to reflect on what is one of our most primary responsibilities: the **CHRISTIAN FORMATION OF OUR CHILDREN**. We rightfully speak with so much pride of the fact that we're blessed with the presence of something in the neighborhood of 260 children on Sunday mornings. At every baptism, which is a very regularly recurring event around here, we promise to do "all in [our] power to support" these children "in their life in Christ." It's time to make good on that promise to these children. Carla and her staff have the program; all they need is

some help. Please volunteer to just be a "helper." No prior experience is necessary, just a willingness to be helpful.

At the August vestry meeting, the **COLUMBARIUM** project was approved. Once 14 more of the niches are pre-sold, construction will begin on a 40-niche structure along the outside wall of the east side of the sanctuary. At \$800 per niche, plus the cost of cremation, and whatever other funeral expenses are desired, columbarium inurnment is between 10 and 20% of the cost of a tradition cemetery funeral. For more information on the columbarium, please contact either Kathy Edwards, Chairman of the Columbarium Committee, or me.

We hope that the columbarium will be Phase 1 of a multi-phase project to develop a courtyard, an **OUTDOOR SANCTUARY** between the sacristy and the parish hall. We are drawing up plans for a 75 foot walkway of memorial pavers to replace the asphalt walkway next to the church building and the columbarium. Other phases may include using pavers under the

THE BUTCH-ER'S BLOCK

by Dorman "Butch" Burtch

Senior Warden

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arbor to make that area more useful and more multi-seasonal, a memorial garden in the vicinity of the columbarium, another paver pathway on the east side of the arbor from the parish hall to the sacristy, and a lot of landscaping in between. We hope that **MEMORIAL PAVERS** will not only pay for the paving and pathways, but also fund a great portion of the entire project. Stay tuned for updates and how you can help.

Your vestry and wardens are charged with the temporal operation of the church. With the advice of the staff, clergy, finance and facilities committees, we establish and present to the church's annual meeting for its approval a budget for church operations based on expectations for both cost and giving. Historically, giving is always down during the summer, and to a certain extent we budget for that. Added to that, however, this month we have taken a \$10,000 hit with the unexpected replacement of an important air conditioning unit in the parish hall. As you settle in, please be generous with all your gifts.

Monk-ey Business continued from pg. 4

For a broader audience in the 1980's. or the eminently practical among you, I commend *St. Benedict's Toolbox: The Nuts and Bolts of Everyday Benedictine Living* by Jane Tomaine. Tomaine is an Episcopalian priest whose book is the fruit of a initiative to bring Benedictine practices into

the day-to-day life of her congregation. Filled with helpful and realistic "tools," it is best used as a periodic resource for the already inspired.

And of course, there's no substitute for encountering the timeless wisdom of St. Benedict directly by reading his "Rule" for

yourself. At just around 9,000 words, it's about the length of the gospel of Luke. An excellent edition—complete with background notes and essays by Norris and others—is found in *The Benedictine Handbook* (Liturgical Press, 2003). You can also find the bare version online or order a free copy from a monastery in North



The Problem with Pain



THE WONDER OF IT ALL

by Carla Schober

Director of Family & Children's Formation

When I was a young adult I had an older and much wiser friend who was in the midst of raising three very active teenage boys. One of them had made a painfully bad decision regardless of all the advice he had been given. I asked my friend how she felt about it...was she disappointed, frustrated, mad? Her answer was to the contrary. She reminded me that regardless of how much she loved her son and wanted the best for him, his bad decision could be used by the Lord. She loved her son but knew he was loved even more by God. She said that sometimes the only way for her son or any of us to recognize God's love and mercy is to fall short and be lifted up by His grace. Pain was not always a bad thing.

As many of you know, this past year I dealt with excruciating back pain. I admit now the pain was mostly due to my numerous bad decisions over the years. Things I did that I thought wouldn't hurt me such as lifting huge bags of mulch or carrying cases of water by myself. I have quite a large list but I think you have the idea. The majority of my back pain was due to my impatience and the pride of not wanting to ask others for help.

I'm happy to say the Lord healed me by way of surgery. The pain is marginal now, and the memory of its old intensity is less and less each day.

However, looking back, there are many things I hope I don't forget from the experience. I never want to forget the people that pushed me to take them up on meals or other help when I finally gave in. I don't want to forget that even though my pain was temporary, many suffer for years, even decades and they need to be reached out to, not forgotten. I learned that people can't read my mind...if I need help, I need to ask and not feel as though I'm a burden or worthless. I learned that pain forced me to look at things from a new and probably healthier prospective. And, I learned that even on the worst days, God was still God.

Consider it a sheer gift, friends, when tests and challenges come at you from all sides. You know that under pressure, your faith-life is forced into the open and shows its true colors. So don't try to get out of anything prematurely. Let it do its work so you become mature and well-developed, not deficient in any way.

James 1:2 from The Message



*Children's Formation Staff:
From L to R, Shari Smyth,
Gaylene Lathman, Matt Rhea,
Elizabeth Madeira, Carla Schober
& Meredith Flynn*



The crucifer leading the children into the service for Communion

You can only come to the morning through the shadows.

J.R.R. Tolkien



An Introduction of Sorts

St. B's Extended Ministries: The Powell's

Who are the Powells and what is the Black Forest Academy? You pray for us every Sunday, but have you ever wondered who we are and what we do? From our observation of all the new faces we see in the parish when we come home in the summer, the answer to the above question for many of you is probably "yes". Thankfully, this ministry edition of The Branch allows us to introduce ourselves to those of you who may not know us.

Our Journey to St. B's

Our family began attending St. B's over eight years ago. We "landed" at St. B's after some painful experiences in other churches. St. B's was for us (and continues to be) a place of healing and restoration and in His providence and plan, a place where we would be transformed and equipped to do what He would eventually call us to. This may sound familiar to you. We have found that restoration and healing are threads

that run common for many St. B's parishioners. For us, our healing came through participating in the different ministries available at the church. We got involved in Children's Ministry, Room in the Inn, Men's and Women's Ministries and occasional ministries such as Habitat for Humanity. It was in those ministries that God crumbled the walls we had built around our hearts. He showed us again what it means to love people and we found true joy in pouring ourselves into other for His glory. Whether you are new to St. B's or have been in the parish for 20 years, we encourage you to seek out ways in which you can minister. It's an amazing way to experience the joy Christ wants to pour into each of us.

Our Family

Mark and Susan have been married for almost 21 years. We have three children, Meredith, Evan and Ethan. Meredith starts college this fall at Cornerstone University in Grand Rapids, Michigan. Evan and Ethan are in 10th and 5th grades, respectively and attend Black Forest Academy where we



TO THE ENDS OF THE EARTH.

by Susan Powell

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serve as missionaries. Mark was a missionary kid who grew up in St. Croix, VI, Puerto Rico and Texas. Susan spent her childhood in Georgia before moving to Nashville to attend Belmont University. Mark holds a M.A. in Clinical Psychology from MTSU and Susan earned her M.Ed. in Administration and Supervision (Library Science) from MTSU.

What is the Black Forest Academy?

The Black Forest Academy (BFA) is an international Christian boarding school that exists primarily for children of missionaries. Often times, missionaries throughout the world are faced with difficult situations as it relates to educating their children. Safety concerns, language barriers and cultural differences are some of the reasons why missionaries send their kids to BFA. Additionally, the need to help their children transition both academically and socially from their country of residence and national schools to university in the States is

continued on pg. 19



Mark and Susan with the resident assistants for Maugenhard, Corey Nickel, Tiffany Sawatzky and Michelle Waters





Liturgy: How We Do What We Do?

This is the fourth installment in The Branch of the text of the instructed Eucharist offered during past Sunday services.

The Nicene Creed

Following the scripture readings and the sermon, we respond to God's Word with the Nicene Creed. It is one of the oldest texts of Christian worship, adopted some 1600 years ago in a council at Nicea, a town in present-day Turkey. "Creed" means belief, and the Nicene Creed is a summary of what we believe as Christians, not Episcopalians or Anglicans. In fact, the text we use is a translation by an ecumenical group that included Anglicans, Roman Catholics, Presbyterians, Lutherans, Methodists, Congregationalists and Baptists. So in the creed, we are expressing our collective, universal faith of Christendom, not just our personal beliefs. We worship not as individuals, but as members of the body of Christ.

I love this quote from the Reverend Barbara Brown Taylor concerning the Nicene Creed:

"When I say, 'We believe...' I count on that to cover what I cannot believe on my own right now. When my faith limps, I lean on the faith of the church, letting 'our' faith suffice until mine returns. Later, when I am able to say, 'We believe...' with renewed confidence, I know that I am filling in for others who are indisposed for the time being, as they filled in for me. My decision to say the creed at all is a decision to trust those who have gone

before me, embracing the faith they have commended to me."

You might notice during the service that some clergy and laity bow at the Incarnational affirmation – "For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven." In some places this bow is continued through the affirmation of the death and burial of our Lord – "He suffered death and was buried." You may choose to adopt either of these practices as well, but it is not required.

The Prayers of the People

The Prayers of the People follow the Creed, and again provide us the opportunity to respond to the Word. To pray for the Church, the world, others and ourselves is one of the fundamental reasons we come to God in worship, and it is an obligation we bring from our baptism. (Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and

**WALK
THIS
WAY**

*by Beverly
Mahan*

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fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers?) Records of the Prayers in the liturgy following the scripture readings and the sermon date back as early as the second century.

Look in the prayer book at page 383 and forward. You will see that there are six forms or versions of the POP that we rotate through during the year. Every version includes prayers for the universal church, the nation, the welfare of the world, the concerns of the local community, the suffering, and the departed. The prayers emphasize that we are all ministers, that we "all share in Christ's eternal priesthood," and that we all are active participants in this Holy Eucharist.

It is appropriate for the gathered to add their own prayers, either silently or aloud. The prayer leader is trained to wait for others to add prayers during the silences.

Notice on page 359 that the prayer book does not instruct us to kneel for the prayers of the people. Kneeling is the custom at St. Bartholomew's Church, but standing is also appropriate.

Confession of Sin

Just as we intercede on behalf of the whole world in the Prayers of the People, so we confess our



*The Acolyte/ Worship display at the
Ministry Fair*

continued on pg. 17





ONE
by Marjie Smith
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One Dog



In July, we opened the door and in walked one little pup.

This is by way of warning that 1300 Holly now has a third resident, who takes up a disproportionate amount of space for a 22-pound – perhaps more, now, given how he warehouses dog food – little guy.

The last 11 years have amounted to the longest dog-drought in my life. His Collarship's idea of a dog drought is not having watched Lassie in 30 years. I don't think I get prayed over so hard as when some puppy corners my eye.

This little red-colored mutt is a rescue dog. He was found abandoned deep in rural turf, starving and covered with ticks. A plea went out on our local canine rescue notification, with a picture. How do you resist a little puppy that looks back at you with one blue eye and one brown one?

Meshack, the first dog I snuck into the marriage, was the result of northern dogs exercising the pursuit of happiness without a mind to pedigree. Cadbury is the southern version.

Dogs from rural, northern Canada had to run miles across fields and sometimes

snowbanks to share their gene pools. All an urban southern dog has to do is walk outside. So, our puppy arrived by accident on many levels.

We called him Cadbury because he's the color of milk chocolate, every bit as entertaining and he doesn't add any padding to the hips. In fact, he may do the opposite.



Meshack

He's also one busy dog.

Nobody knew for sure how old he was, being little and abandoned, but he's now somewhere around 6 months. He is going to stay puppy sized, with his long Bambi legs, cute face and coloring donated by a fox, an Irish setter or a rusted truck.

The thing about dogs is that they bound their way into your life and immediately make their

bed in your heart. Even His Collarship can be caught petting the dog. And he definitely walks it and cleans up after it. Love isn't always mushy in our house.

The reason I never wanted another dog: saying goodbye is too hard. They never live long enough. Yes, euthanizing them at the vet is much kinder, sometimes, than what we make humans go through in their terminal days, but it haunts me for years after.

My dad took care of that when I was a kid.

I remember my dad and my oldest brother "taking care" of one of my dogs, when I was a child. I knew they were burying it down by the pond and I sobbed as I watched from my bedroom window as the two of them put it to rest. My brother, 8 years older than I, knew I was there in the window some 200 yards away. Without turning to acknowledge my small presence in the moment, he leaned down into the grave and patted the dog. I didn't know he was doing it for me then, but I know it now.

When our first family dog, Meshack, was near the end, I kept postponing the decision. His hips were stiff with arthritis. When I lifted him into the car, his eyes were pools of apology. When he didn't hear people at the door, his almost sightless eyes were full of confusion. He

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Reframing Summer Mission Trip

St. B's Youth Pilgrimage to Washington D.C.

I am happy to report our recent trip to Washington was a success. But how do you measure that success? Traditionally, the "Summer Mission Trip" was about going to a far off destination to do some form of service and evangelism to the inner city or the third world. The measure of success generally was measured by how many people you got to give their life to Jesus and/or how many houses you were able to build in Mexico. As I planned this trip over the last year I acknowledged a bit of that pressure to deliver a proper "Summer Mission Trip."

However, as the culture and dialogue in the United States has changed so dramatically in the last ten years, so has the culture and dialogue of youth ministry. I remember going on my first Summer Mission Trip as a youth about ten years ago. I remember very vividly my deepest sense of conflict being, "what good can I do

in just one week?" And to be quite honest with you, the question has never really been resolved. Certainly we did good things, like community service in the inner-city, told homeless people about Jesus, sorted food at the local food bank, and I will always say doing good is well, good. But the bigger question, one I believe we, as Christians must always be asking is: are our activities joining God in what God is up to? How can twenty outsiders, people who have no knowledge of the city they are entering, know nothing of its culture, it's life, it's pain, it's truest beauty, know what's good for it? How can you contribute to a story that you haven't read?

This summer our group read the story. We investigated the city of Washington D.C. We drove ten hours to listen to what the Spirit was saying to the church in Washington. There were certainly elements of the Summer Mission Trip during our week in Washington. We did some community service, like handing bottled water out to homeless people. However, everything we did we did it with a posture of listening to what God was already up to in the city (For instance: the bottled water ministry we partnered with Capitol Hill Group Ministry).

Our dialogue for the week was to discuss: What Christians are supposed to do about poverty? The reason we picked Washington D.C. is it has one of the highest population of homeless people living amongst some of the wealthiest people in the world. We wanted to investigate what the church in Washington was doing to join God in fighting poverty and injustice both locally and around the world and then dialogue about how that implicates us as Christians living in Nashville. Everything we

by Steven
Lefebvre

Former
Assistant
Director of
Youth & College
Formation



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did, from visiting monuments, to pulling weeds at a cemetery, and even meeting our congressman, was all in the mix of this particular dialogue.

One of the ways we addressed poverty on the local level was we had two gentlemen from the National Coalition for the Homeless come visit us as part of the Homeless Speakers Program. Their stories were profound and I believe really humanized and advocated the homeless everywhere. Their main argument was that most of our stereotypes about the homeless (that they are lazy, crazy, and/or junkies) only describe a small minority population. They described to us a whole community of people who lost their homes in a struggle to find work or have clinical illnesses with no medical care, or had a bad string of years with an addiction and are just trying to get back on their feet again. What they asked of our group was to simply treat the homeless well, to be compassionate and to acknowledge the humanity in them. (Of course their way was way more to their story that I don't have time to get into but I do want to encourage you to ask one of the youth to tell you about it. For more information about the Homeless Speakers Program visit www.nationalhomeless.org/faces)

A major highlight of this trip was what we did to investigate the problem of worldwide poverty. How do we, as Christians address the problems with hunger, generational poverty, and even human trafficking? For this, we went and visited several

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*STBSYM Pilgrims outside of the
National Cathedral in DC*



Glimpses of Our Life Together This Summer

What story are we telling?



**STBSYM
pilgrims
in DC**



Glimpses of Our Life Together This Summer

What story are we telling?



July 4th
Corn
Roast



Grand Marshals of the Parade: Leslie Ewing, Brannon Huddleston and Lyon Tyler



A Letter from the Chapman's

News from Trinity Dental Clinic, Liberia

Dear St. B's body,

First of all, before writing anything else, we want to thank St. B's for everything you have done for us over the last seven years of living and working abroad. Despite our location we have never felt far from the St. B's community, although we are looking forward to being physically as well as spiritually close once again. In the services on August 14th, Jerry announced that we had decided it will be necessary for us to leave Liberia next year. I use this phrasing "will be necessary" because the choice is quite a "non-decision", something we simply have to do as a family. This doesn't make it easy, but we know God will help us through the process. We have already received incredible words of encouragement from many of you and want to say thank you for that. Below is a message that we sent out to our supporters just before Jerry announced the news in church, with an added paragraph about our foster son, Stephen, and his adoption that needs to take place before we leave.



The Chapman's
Trinity Dental Clinic, Liberia
chapmank@trinitydental.org
www.trinitydental.org

Some of you had the chance to see Kristin while she was on a short trip to the U.S. The primary reason was to have Samuel tested for learning disabilities at Vanderbilt University. The tests confirmed what we already highly suspected. We obtained five different diagnoses for Samuel, including dyslexia, showing us that his difficulties were as bad or worse than we had imagined and that he has very little hope without specialized education. There is no way Kristin would be able to help him and he will require not just one specialized educator, but several.

What this means for us as a family, sadly, is that we will not be able to stay in Liberia. We are pretty crushed by this, but know that we could never sacrifice Samuel's opportunities, and we are very thankful that most of what we have started here will continue on.

The clinic's co-founder, Frieda Schmidt, will stay at Trinity Dental Clinic as a practitioner (Frieda is a dental therapist from Canada) and clinical mentor to Edward Maquie, one of our Liberian staff who has been with us for over two years and just recently returned from a brief, but intensive dental training in India. Although he has only just graduated, Edward shows tremendous potential as a clinical provider and will be under my mentorship over the next year, continuing and furthering his training. I have no doubt that God has commissioned Edward for this role at Trinity Dental. We are praying hard for another dentist who God might call to aid the clinic in its continued development and keep its range of services as broad as we can. Our hope is to provide another scholarship to a Liberian nurse to be trained in Liberia's new Dental Nurse Practitioner program and be working at TDC within 3 years. I am very hopeful for the clinic's future and even its growth and ability to sustain itself in just a short amount of time.

We plan to move back to Nashville approximately next June. I have been offered a job by the dentist with whom I worked in China, Dr. Phillip Kemp. I will set aside one day a week to continue working for Trinity Dental and to make 2 trips a year back here, as well as possibly one or more trips elsewhere with Dr. Kemp, who has a real passion for overseas missions and has started his own non-profit called Hope Smiles. Dr. Kemp has been very understanding that a big part of our hearts will be in Liberia and countries like it and is even the one who proposed we take trips back to Liberia.

One thing that needs to happen before we return is that our second Liberian son, Stephen, needs to be legally adopted. None of you have met him because he has not been allowed to leave the country with us yet. Adoptions have been closed in Liberia for over two years. The passing of new legislature that is needed is a bit slow to say the least! But just a few days ago, we got word from the social worker that we should be able to file for the adoption in just a couple of weeks. Fortunately, because we were trying to travel with him a couple of times, we know that every bit of the paperwork is in order to file for the adoption itself. Please join us in prayer for this to happen. Little is fast in Liberia!

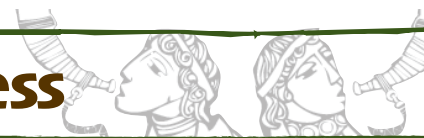
We look forward to staying in touch during this difficult process and transition and obviously cherish everyone's prayers at this time. We have very mixed emotions but we know God can use any of us despite our location. Thanks again to all of you.

He raises the poor from the dust and lifts the needy from the ash heap;
he seats them with princes and has them inherit a throne of honor. 1 Samuel 2:8

Keith and the Chapman Family



St. B's Journeys with the Homeless



MISSION AND OUTREACH

by Whitney Stone
Vestry Member

If you've walked around downtown Nashville, or even driven by numerous busy corners around town, chances are you have seen some of the most marginalized of our city – those without somewhere to call home. St. B's partners with several organizations that target homelessness in Nashville, giving us the opportunity to be the church to those who might otherwise slip through the cracks without the services and ministries of these great organizations.

open table re-imagine community

OPEN TABLE OF NASHVILLE, INC.

Contact: Ingrid McIntyre
ingrid@opentablenashville.org
www.opentablenashville.org

I've had the pleasure of getting to know Ingrid McIntyre, Executive Director of Open Table Nashville, Inc. Open Table came into being as a result of Tent City flooding out in last May's floods. The 140 people living in Tent City had nowhere to go. Ingrid and others jumped in with a lot of energy to find places for these folks, and Open Table was born. Open Table has just celebrated its one-year anniversary and the work it is doing is outstanding. When asked why she is so passionate about her work with the homeless, Ingrid responded, "Just like I would walk with my birth mother, father, brother or sister, I want to walk with my friends I meet on the margins of Nashville's society. Community

is the missing link. It's what makes the difference between being housed and falling through the cracks. When the seeds of love are planted and nurtured, they grow . . . every time." The foundation of Open Table Nashville is relationships, interconnectedness. It's a ministry that takes conscious effort and commitment. They work to network resources, nurture sustainable living and journey with each other in love.

The Homeless in Nashville:

There are approximately 5,000 homeless adults in Nashville on any given night, but only about 1,500 shelter and transitional housing beds. This year, Metro Nashville reported that there were 2,500 homeless school children in Nashville.

There are over 80 homeless encampments in Nashville, most which are small in size. Before Tent City flooded in May, about 140 homeless individuals were living there.

A minimum wage worker would have to work over 72 hours a week to afford to live in and pay utility bills for a Nashville fair-market apartment at a cost of \$625 per month.

One part of its ministry is the transitional house, Hobson House, in east Nashville. Hobson House welcomes residents on a regular basis and

provides a safe community for the homeless to begin to rebuild their lives. They love to open their home to visitors, and welcome home cooked meals. Open Table has a variety of needs that can be met by willing volunteers.



ROOM IN THE INN

Contact: Jim Pichert
jpichert@yahoo.com
www.roomintheinn.org

Another ministry St. B's is involved in is Room in the Inn, otherwise known as RITI. If you've been around St. B's for long, you have undoubtedly been given the opportunity to join in this great ministry. Jim Pichert leads the charge for us in this effort. St. B's volunteers host 12 carefully screened homeless guests every Saturday evening through early Sunday morning from November 1 through March 31. A team of people (supper clubs, bible study groups, young adults, etc.) generally will prepare a hot, home cooked meal and share the evening with our guests. Jim notes "We are among the few churches that welcome female homeless folks, so I am always grateful for St. B's females who will host overnight." With RITI kickoff just around the corner, please keep an eye out for the sign-ups for your family or small group to get involved.

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Was, after all, a mixed –breed collie, in charge of the herd.

His Collarship and I were agreed that when the day came, I was to call him and he'd "take care" of the trip to the vet. And it did come. "It's time," was all I could say before dissolving. And so, he was once again my prince, as he gallantly rode in on his Toyota charger and swept my beloved dog away.

We had a golden retriever as well, by then. Her name was Sheba. She came to us via a fellow dog-lover going through some tough changes. Sheba came to us 4 months old and full of mischief. Her end came unexpectedly after a long, healthy life. Her heart just gave out. His Collarship found her lying, unable to move, while on his way to the early service on a Sunday morning.

Her stillness frightened me, when I saw her. She also had refused to go outside the night before, so I figured she might need to relieve herself. When I carried her outside and set her on the deck, covered in a dusting of snow, her legs slowly collapsed and she simply laid her

head down. She knew she was dying. Now I knew.

I carried her back into the den, pulled her into my lap and washed her with my tears. We sat that way for over an hour. She was content. My friend Ramona came over immediately when I called. She had not yet left for the late service. Together, in a snow storm, we drove the dog to its compassionate ending at the vet's clinic.

This time, I was the one "taking care" of my dog, in a wet, blubbery kind of way.

Back at our house, we were joined by our close friend, Ellen, Sheba's substitute mom. Jerry had told her before service. Sheba's death came while our community worshiped and shared communion. Three of us were not there. We were having a service of our own – a memorial one.

I swore I'd never get another dog. And here we are.

I'm hoping this one has a long expiry date.



Cadbury

St. B's Women

"Telling Stories: Using Our Own Narrative to Give God the Glory"

Fall Mini-Retreat
Sept. 17th
9:30 a.m.
in the Parish Hall

Join us for the Annual ECW Fall Mini-Retreat with Ashley Cleveland, songwriter, artist and newly-confirmed member of St. B's.

Please RSVP to
stbswomen@stbs.net

Soup & Beverage Tasting
October 15th
The Smith's
1-3 p.m.

Catch up with each other as you sample a cross-section of soups and dazzling non-alcoholic beverages to get you ready for entertaining through the fall and winter seasons. Soups will range from apple-butternut squash and Italian Fazool soups to a veggie soup for those watching calories. Beverages will feature hot and cold offerings ranging from Shirley Temples to spiced ciders. The cooks and drink gurus will share their recipes and their tips.

ecw

With the Homeless continued from pg. 15



**MOBILE
LOAVES AND
FISHES**
Contact:
Trey Myatt

treymyatt@gmail.com
www.mlf.org

Trey Myatt has been instrumental in helping this ministry take off at St. B's. Since April of 2008, Trey and others have taken a truck out on the 3rd Tuesday of every month. They engage with the folks they serve and give them food, toiletries and clothing from the truck. When asked

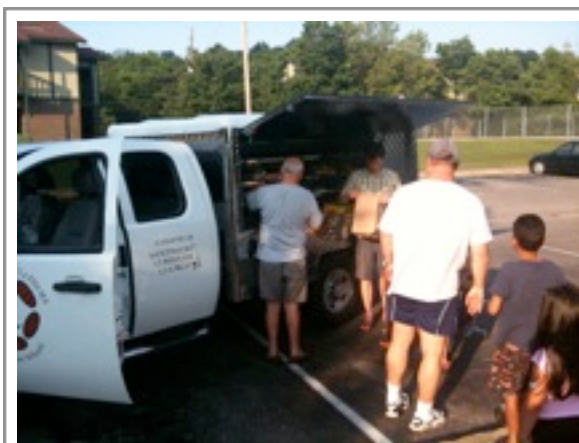
why others "should" get involved, Trey responded, "I never use the word should. What I want are people to 'join' us in this. They will have an opportunity to step outside their comfort zone and be a warm face to those we serve. Folks can also enjoy the friendships that are developed with fellow volunteers and with the homeless/impoverished we serve that may not happen inside the church walls. We are one of the few ministries of this church that solely takes place outside of the church." To help out with Mobile Loaves and Fishes, all you need to do is show up. Everything else is taken care of for you to minister.

Of The Homeless in Nashville:

- 50% are medically vulnerable
- 67% are uninsured
- 33% have a physical disability that limits their
- 64% have abused substances in the past or present and 44% have received treatment
- 45% have experienced or currently experience mental illness. 30% have a co-occurring disorder which means they experience mental health and substance abuse issues
- Between 30% and 50% are working
- 22% are veterans of which 59% are medically vulnerable
- 14% were in foster care of which 54% are medically vulnerable



Open Table's Ingrid McIntyre



Volunteers distributing food from the MLF Truck

Liturgy continued from pg. 9

Sins not just as individuals, but as the body of Christ. We confess the ways in which all humanity, ourselves included, have missed the mark, have failed to love God with our whole hearts and failed to love our neighbors as ourselves.

Confession is a means of preparing for receiving communion, and it is a form of worship, because by recognizing our failures, we are recognizing God's grace and victory. The general confession allows our community to recognize that we never reach perfection but by Christ. It is not a confession of personal sin

alone, but an acknowledgement of the failures of the local and greater Church.

After all have made their confession, the priest pronounces absolution, a formal declaration of the forgiveness of our sins which Christ promises.



Finding Your Place @ St. B's: Volunteer!

The Ministry Fair was bustling with enthusiastic people who wanted to get involved and local non-profit organizations and St. B's church groups who eagerly wanted volunteer help. The Ministry Fair was a great way to introduce people to all the opportunities for involvement and provide a forum to ask questions. Amongst my conversations I realized some people felt overwhelmed by the options. They genuinely wanted to help in some way but didn't know how or where to start. If you still don't know what organization is best or where to start I hope this article is helpful.



I think finding a place to commit your volunteer time, energy and possibly financial resources could be a difficult one but it also doesn't have to be. When God calls us to ministry I believe it's as simple as John 13:34-35 "A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. As I have

loved you, so you must love one another. By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another." Being kind, treating others with respect, and loving and serving others is a ministry that we can do each and every day.

If you are in a season of life where you can't commit to ongoing volunteer efforts I still believe you can minister to others every day by how you treat the people you interact with. A simple smile, a warm embrace, even a kind gesture like holding a door can go a long way and are meaningful acts of love. The other day a man in front of me in the drive thru line at Starbucks actually paid for my coffee and told the teller just to tell me "to have a good day." I can honestly say I have never had a stranger spend \$3.00 on me before and it was lovely. I said to myself and the teller "I need to do that for someone else." The ECW just started a Helping Hands Ministry to serve our own parishioners in need. It's a great way to help others! (read more below)

If you do have the time to commit to a regular volunteer position then I would recommend looking through the descriptions of the organizations St. Bartholomew's already partners with, listed on the website, <http://www.stbs.net/serve/local/>. If any of those organizations seems to pull at your heart strings then explore the opportunities for volunteerism on their website. If they don't list specific jobs or responsibilities that fit your skill set or schedule,



by Brooke Schroeder

ECW Outreach Coordinator
stbswomen@stbs.net



Bags to hold information were given out at the Ministry Fair.

I would still contact their volunteer coordinator to explore other possibilities. Everyone has special skills and abilities you could offer a group and most organizations are very willing to discuss the possibilities of how you could work with them.

If there are no groups that you are passionate about from the list on the St. B's website, do a google search of topics and causes that interest you. I also have a broader list of organizations that help women, children and families in Nashville which I am happy to give to anyone interested. As the ECW (Episcopal Church Women) Outreach Coordinator, I would love to help get you plugged into a meaningful service opportunity where you can share your gifts and talents to help others grow. An easy and fun way to get connected is

continued on pg. 20



Introductions continued from pg. 8

Tparamount to missionary parents. Because BFA exists, missionaries are able to stay in their fields of service while their children's educational and social needs are being met in a nurturing and Christ centered environment. By supporting us as missionaries, you as St. Bartholomew's Church are supporting many different ministries in over 50 different countries from across the globe.

Our Specific Ministry

For the past three years at BFA, Mark has been a counselor and Susan was the head librarian. We have loved the past three years of ministry and how God

has grown us closer to Him and refined us. We are thankful for the time we had as a family unit of five and the ability that gave us to help our own children adjust to life in a foreign country. For those three years, we enjoyed volunteering every week in the dorms here. From the time we began that side ministry, our hearts have been drawn to the opportunities for life on life ministry that are available in the dorm setting.

To that end, we are excited to share with you all that we are now "mom and dad" to 20 high school boys! We couldn't be more excited even though many people can hardly believe our

excitement when we share our good news. Living in community with our boys and our staff of three resident assistants will no doubt be challenging, exhausting and at times stressful. However, we can imagine no greater calling than the privilege to stand in the gap for these parents and to be able to love their boys during these years.

Thank you for partnering with us in this vital part of kingdom work! Be on the lookout for our new monthly e-newsletter in your inbox in the next month or so. We are excited to introduce you to our new family and highlight the ministries that our



Left: Outside view of dormitory. Right: The senior class of 2012 ready to proceed into the opening ceremonies with the country flags of where their parents are serving

St. B's Welcome Brigade | Become a Greeter this Fall.

Sundays before and after services. Intrigued? Email Sue Pichert at spichert@yahoo.com.

Why Be a Greeter? | Nancy Coleman

I thoroughly enjoy being a "greeter" for our church services. It is easy to smile and say hello as members of our parish arrive and it's wonderful to meet their relatives and guests. Many times I welcome folks who are searching for a new church home and I am especially mindful that I am making an impression on them, on behalf of our church, remembering Hebrews 13:2. Recently, two ladies were sitting in the narthex waiting on a friend who had invited them to visit our church. I approached to welcome them and found that one of them looked familiar and, yes, I knew her. By serving as a Greeter, I am frequently reminded of just how connected we are in the Body of Jesus.



Finding Your Place continued from pg. 18

To join the ECW with our group service projects.

The ECW added an outreach component this year and has chosen to partner with two agencies Magdalene/Thistle Farms, St. Luke's Community House that serve women, children and families and to start our own group "Helping Hands" to help fellow parishioners in need. We will organize 3-4 group projects throughout the year including: the Magdalene Graduation Luncheon (May), St. Luke's Halloween event for families (October), St. Luke's Thanksgiving lunch for seniors (November), and operation of St. Luke's toy store for Christmas (December). All women are invited to join and we would love your participation!

Below are brief descriptions of Magdalene House and St. Luke's Community House but visit our website, www.stbs.net/connect/women/, for specific information on individual service opportunities.



Magdalene House and Thistle Farms www.thistlefarms.org

"Magdalene is a residential program for women who have survived lives of violence, prostitution and addiction. For two years, they are offered housing,

food, medical and dental needs, therapy, education and job training, all without charge and taking any governmental funding."



St. Luke's Community House

www.stlukescommunityhouse.org
"St. Luke's is a United Way Family Resource Center (FRC) providing 34 programs to the residents of Old West Nashville." Their mission "is to help low income working families, seniors, and individuals in West Nashville achieve their potential and prevent problems that threaten the stability of families and community."

ECW Helping Hands

ECW is coordinating a group to help minister to our own parishioners. If you know someone who needs help, transportation, yard work, errands run, companionship-ANYTHING-let us know and we will help coordinate aid.

To receive outreach emails about the group projects or individual service opportunities, please make sure you are on our mailing list. Thank you for your servant hearts and willing hands. You are making a difference.

What is ECW? Episcopal Church Women

Every woman who attends St. B's is a member of our women's group, the Episcopal Church Women (ECW). We gather together to provide a place for women in the church to get to know one another and to grow in the Lord.

Contact us at stbswomen@stbs.net

Opportunities



Adult Formation Opportunities this fall

On Sundays beginning Sept. 18:

Old Testament in Real Time and Real Space, 8:30 a.m. in the Parish Hall

In God's Hands: A Primer in 12 Step Spirituality, 10:30 a.m. in the Rectory

Lifebuilders, 10:30 a.m. in the Parish Hall

During the week:

Bible Study with Dana Sherrard, Tues, 10 - 10:50 a.m., Sept. 13

The Christbook: A Gospel of Matthew Study, Wed, 11 a.m., Fr Dixon, Sept. 14

Women's Bible Study with childcare, Thurs, 10:00 a.m. - Noon, Sept. 8

Men's Bible Study, Thursdays, 7 a.m., ongoing

Anglicanism 101:

Wednesdays, 6:30- 8 p.m. Sept. 21 - Nov. 16

RSVP for this class led by Fr. Dixon by Sept. 16. Childcare is available.

For more information go to www.stbs.net



A Community of Worship and Fellowship

It's so much more than music

The music ministry is always looking (sometimes desperately!) for additional singers, instrumentalists, sound engineers, etc. to help contribute to worship at St. B's. Whether performing an occasional offertory, playing an instrument up in the loft once a month, or singing in choir, there are many ways to get plugged in. The music ministry has become a place of worship, rejuvenation, fellowship, prayer, and lots of fun for a wide variety of musicians and singers from all backgrounds and abilities. And, contrary to what some may think, most members of this ministry are not professionals. Do you have a gift to offer? We would love to meet you!



Singers at a Sunday service in the Loft

In Their Own Words: Members of Music Ministry Share their Experiences

"Many years ago when our family joined St B's, I had come from a church where the music was presented up front and center stage. The focus, in my opinion,

wasn't so much on God's word as it was on "who" was playing. What's really nice here at St B's is the music comes from the Loft at the back of the church. At St B's, the music supports the service.

Contrary to what some may think, most members of this ministry are not professionals

I am not a professional musician. While I know my guitar chords (most of the time), I don't read music. I suspect I am like many other parishioners who, like me, simply enjoy and are moved by music and maybe play a little guitar (or some other instrument) or who can carry a tune and just like to sing. It's been over 6 years since I simply took the first step and asked..."Is there room for me in the loft"? Before I knew it, I was on the monthly schedule...and am still here, enjoying every minute. I love the group of musicians I'm fortunate to play with - who I now call friends. For me...I consider my participation a privilege and an honor... a personal ministry.

I would strongly encourage anyone who has a desire to play an instrument or sing...to share their God given talents (no matter how large or small)...please come be a part of the

ST. B'S MUSIC MINISTRY

Eric Wyse, Director
David Madeira, Associate Director
Teresa Robinson, Administrator

St B's Music ministry."
--Brack Leaberry, guitar

"I have been struck by how we are a praying community, and how we find ways to show how much we care for one another. The community and relationship aspect is notable!"
--Rebecca Searfoss, soprano

"I was learning to play the harp when I started playing at St. B's and was playing music from my *Learn to Play the Harp* book! Many years later I am still learning. A church family setting is very forgiving and is a great place to offer your music. I struggled a lot with learning to play the harp publicly and made a lot of mistakes. Eric let me come back time and again; and to this very day he continues to offer me the opportunity to play. How kind is that? Music does not have to be complicated and advanced to be worshipful. Keep it simple and offer it from your heart."
--Lisa Rhea, harp

"The music ministry is just a fun place to serve. It was a great way



The Chamber Singers on retreat

continued on pg. 24

St. B's Welcome Brigade | Become a Greeter this Fall.

Sundays before and after services. Intrigued? Email Sue Pichert at spichert@yahoo.com.

Why Be a Greeter? | Michelle Olson

Being a greeter has been a great thing for me. I feel that this is something that is one of the talents that I can use to help the Church. I really enjoy meeting new people coming into our Church. Also it is so nice to be able to re-connect with people at the Church that you may not have seen in quite a while. I really enjoy the interaction with the people that I meet and greet with while doing this. It's a great way and enjoyable way to serve.

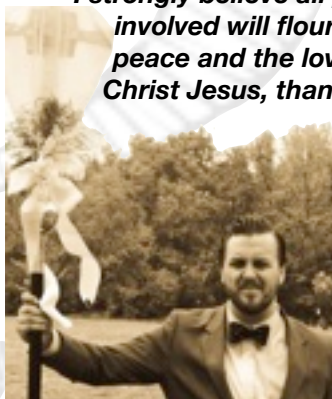
Reframing continued from pg. 11

Christian advocacy groups. This is essentially lobbying. Much like how farmers or oil companies send people to lobby congress to remember them when making new legislation, Christian advocacy groups are non-profit organizations that speak on behalf of the people who can't speak for themselves. We learned that our voice does matter! We as the church have to constantly be advocating for the least of these. We learned that the resources the government has can be directed towards God's kingdom purposes.

Going back to this idea of success, I struggled continually with trying to measure the trip's success. We didn't really convert any lost souls or build any big structures. However, the real fruit of this trip will probably be harvested at some later day in the distant future. Our signs of success were immeasurable but we were blessed with glimmers of God's presence. Whether it was watching our students faces as they wrestled with how this all applies to their lives or watching friendships grow within our Jesus-centered community, we can faithfully confirm that the seeds we planted in Washington fell on good soil. And for that we thank you for supporting us on this unusual trip. For every muffin you bought at our refreshment table, every prayer you spoke both before and during our time in Washington, and every Tweet you read while we were gone, we thank

you for being so intimately involved in the lives of our youth here at St. B's.

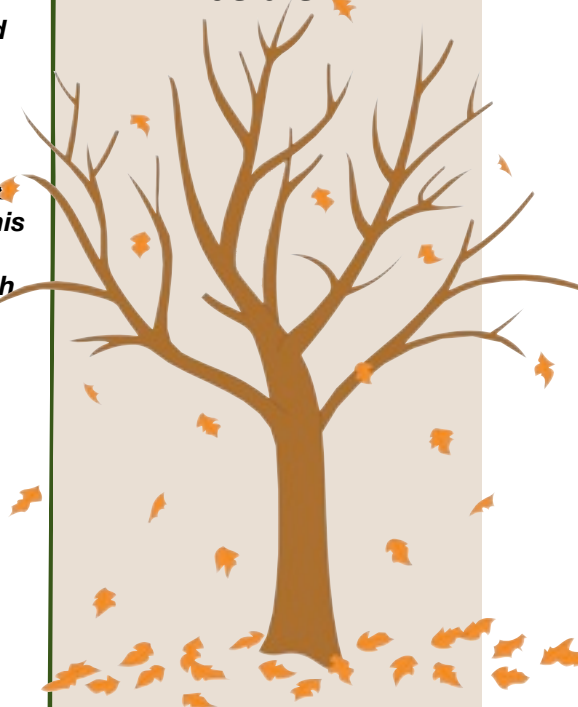
And on that note...I thank you. I have been serving as a Youth volunteer, intern, youth minister, college minister, young adults leader, Eucharistic minister, acolyte, communications assistant, summer pre-school coordinator and left fielder for the softball team for almost five years now. Starting September 1st, I am starting my first full-time ministry position at St. Paul's Murfreesboro. I am confident in saying that I am fully qualified and ready to take on a fairly daunting role as their Director of Youth and Young Adults. It is certainly this community's role in my life that I am the kind man and leader that I am today. I am eternally grateful and because of that heavy hearted to be leaving this place. However, I trust that God is present and involved in this whole process. It is because of this I strongly believe all parties involved will flourish. With peace and the love of Christ Jesus, thank you!



Mark the date

St. B's Annual Pig Roast & Fall Festival. October 2, beginning 11:45 a.m.

Mark your calendars for this annual gathering at St. B's to benefit our youth ministry. BBQ & chicken, booths, live music and kids activities, including a jump house! Come and set up a tent to campout on the grounds the night before.





From Glory to Glory

Being transformed into his likeness
with ever-increasing glory.

Celebrating the glory that grows within us and among our community.



Anniversaries

Brian & Donna Darnell	Sep 8	Lee, Mr Josh	09/06	Moessner, Joseph	10/12
Sarah Bell & Tony Earley	Oct 9	Lowell, Mrs Sonja	09/14	Petillo, Mrs Katherine	10/22
Winston & Allyson Edwards	Sep 28	Madeira, Elizabeth	09/06	Pichert, Carolyn	10/07
Langley & Lois Granbery	Sep 20	Marshall, Mrs Diane	09/10	Pollitt, Mr David	10/14
Anna & Josh Hayden	Oct 22	Martin, Joseph	09/13	Pollitt, Hunter	10/16
Anna & Scott Kammerer	Sep 16	Mayo, Mr Aaron	09/08	Prichard, Mr Chris	10/02
Jerry & Melody Krogman	Oct 12	Morant, Victoria	09/20	Puckett, Mr Joshua	10/07
Angela & Tim Lauer	Sep 11	Morss, Connor	09/16	Pullen, Alex	10/14
Cindy & Rick Lundgren	Sep 1	Mullins, Ms Ladonna	09/15	Ramsay, Ms Rebecca	10/28
Julia & Paul Miller	Sep 9	Pollitt, Mrs Nancy	09/25	Root, Margaret Grace	10/08
Chad & Tara Moore	Oct 14	Puckett, Ison Peter Daniel	09/11	Russell, Tyler	10/28
Jamie & Trey Myatt	Oct 30	Quinn, Mr Walt	09/28	Sale, Andrew	10/23
Joshua & Susan Puckett	Sep 9	Rainey, Gabby	09/06	Schober, Justin	10/14
Lori & Walt Quinn	Oct 16	Ramsay, Ms Beth-Ann	09/21	Simpson, Marshal Loizeaux	10/04
Charlie & Katie Reasor	Sep 18	Ramsay, Thomas	09/16	Sullivan, Maggie	10/01
Chuck & Gail Richey	Oct 3	Rodgers, Mrs Dawn	09/20	Sullivan, Mr Matthew	10/30
Larissa & Sean Root	Oct 18	Schober, Mr David	09/08	Swihart, Eliza Joy Netherland	10/13
Carla & David Schober	Sep 14	Schroeder, Ainsley	09/04	Verner, Mr Jerry	10/18
Nyla & Tim Villager	Oct 17	Shay, Sonnie	09/20	Villager, Ms Tiffany	10/21
David & Jule West	Sep 14	Simpson, Jamieson	09/29	Villager, Mr Tim	10/02
Jamie & Laura Wilhoite	Oct 19	Smith, Jerry	09/22	Waters, Ms Linda	10/20
Adam & Amy Wirdzek	Oct 23	Southwood, Mr John	09/11	Weedman, Margaret	10/25
Peter & Mary Woods	Oct 20	Southwood, Mrs Leslie	09/27	White, Jackson	10/15
Jon & Suzanne Zadick	Oct 6	Stranch, Mrs Jane	09/17	Wills Jr, Morgan	10/10
		Weems, Mr Marshall	09/23	Wilson, Rev. David	10/25
		West, Mr Dave	09/20	Wood, David	10/04
		Wilder, Mr Matt	09/17	Woolwine, Ms Suzie	10/21
		Wood, Mr Rick	09/27	Zadick, Matthew	10/27
		Wood, Mrs Sandy	09/25		

October Birthdays

September Birthdays

Ashcraft, Ric	09/14	Alcott, Jack	10/24		
Bakker, Mr Tony	09/08	Andrews, Brent	10/25		
Baldwin, Mrs Wendy	09/07	Bowlby, Katy	10/23		
Bradley, Mrs Michelle	09/18	Butler, Ms Abigail	10/03		
Buxton, Lila	09/07	Chaffee, Mr James	10/12		
Chapman, Mr Keith	09/24	Clements, Ruthie	10/08		
Chapman, Lauren	09/18	Clinton, Rankin	10/07		
Coleman, Ms Teresa Silva	09/24	Daniel, Rachel	10/07		
Cooper, Juliet	09/11	Deane, Alexandra	10/31		
Courtney, Lily	09/09	Deane, Mrs Natasha	10/10		
Courtney, Mrs Rhonda	09/22	Earley, Willa "Ruth" Vhi Wen	10/16		
Cruz, Isabella Natalia	09/18	Ewin, Mr Bill	10/11		
Daniel, Mr Greg	09/09	Ewubare, Tega	10/21		
Darnell, Megan	09/10	Freeman, David	10/01		
Dill, Mary Grace	09/15	Garth, Mrs Shirley	10/09		
Edwards, Ms Sibley	09/14	Goldthorpe, Mr Ted	10/01		
Emerson, Mr Scott	09/24	Granbery, Mrs Lois	10/02		
Ferguson, Asher	09/13	Holt, Spencer	10/02		
Granbery, Abigail	09/11	Hornsby, Mr Ben	10/16		
Granbery, Hannah	09/24	Hunter, Mr Richard	10/24		
Hindalong, Emily	09/18	Hyer, Julianne	10/25		
Hingst, Ms Ellen	09/03	Insani, Mr John	10/26		
Holt, Hunter	09/14	Kipp, Mr Aaron	10/16		
Kammerer, Lucy Sarah	09/12	Kipp, Eleanor	10/19		
Kinzig, Mr Brett	09/24	Lauer, Sophia	10/08		
Kinzig, Wren	09/16	Letterman, Mrs Katherine	10/24		
Langlinais, Mrs Natalie	09/10	Logan, Ms Corrie	10/05		
Lauer, Mr Tim	09/05	Lowell, Mr Charlie	10/21		
		MacLachlan, Mr Greg	10/07		
		Madeira, Maddy	10/02		
		Miller, Mrs Julia	10/17		

Weddings

Corrie Logan & Brent Morris	5/21
Amy Floyd & Jud Larson	9/16

Baptism

Erik Jason Marsh	8/21
Athalia Mae Kipp, parents Aaron & Eleanor Kipp	8/21

Births:

Henry Conrad Niemeyer Parents, Jennifer and Carl Niemeyer	7/5
Abbey Grace Dunaway Parents, Amy and Tommy Dunaway	7/20
Emily Hazel Mason Parents, Stephen and Jude Mason	8/24

Death:

Lou Cornelius	9/1
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Worship and Fellowship continued from pg. 21

For me to get plugged in and feel a part of the community when I first started coming to St. B's."

--John Moessner, guitar

"I grew up at two churches famous for their music. I never made the attempt to get involved because the names & reputations of the people leading worship were so intimidating! But when I came to St. B's for the first time and turned my head to see the musicians in the back (not performing up front as I was used to seeing), I suddenly thought, "I might actually get to be involved with music here!"

I got started in the Parish Choir, singing for Christmas and Easter services, and then asked Eric Wyse if perhaps I would be suitable for being one of the mic'd singers on Sunday mornings. The first few times I was VERY jittery and anxious. But the other musicians up in the loft were so relaxed and welcoming that I really enjoyed it, and have been doing it ever since!"

--Susan Houston, alto

When I first arrived at St B's I hesitated at joining the music team immediately. I had been on the worship team or in the choir in other congregations. This time around I wanted to experience the worship for myself before I jumped on ship, because it was the expected thing to do. One of the greatest joys of being involved in the St B's Worship Team, Parish and Chamber Choir that I treasure is the humility and genuine love of music that everyone brings to the table. We are not just a group of musicians. We are a community of people who bring their gifts, love of singing and playing to meet God in His house and help bring others and ourselves into His presence.

"Where there is devotional music, God is always at hand with His gracious presence." J.S. Bach

- Amy Wirdzek, soprano

Which area of music ministry is the right fit for you?

Vocalists and Instrumentalists

Vocalists and instrumentalists are needed to assist in leading the music during worship in our Sunday services. A variety of instruments are used. If you sing or play ANY instrument proficiently, there may well be a place for you either in our main Sunday services, or assisting in other ministries (Children's, Praise & Healing Services).

The Parish Choir

The Parish Choir is a volunteer mixed choir of adult and youth (high school +), men and women, which offers classic and modern choral music on a seasonal basis (Advent/Christmas, Lent/Holy Week/Easter.) While helpful, reading music is NOT required to be in the choir; a love of music, the gift of song, and the heart of a worshipper are!

The Chamber Singers

The Chamber Singers is an auditioned mixed choir offering sacred music on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month (September through May), a Spring concert, and other special events. Chamber Singers rehearses on Wednesday nights from 7 to 8:30. Basic music reading ability required, but anyone with an interest in choral singing is encouraged to audition.

St. B's Choristers

St. B's Choristers is a children's choir open to all 4th, 5th, and 6th graders. This is an exciting opportunity for children to learn the appropriateness of worship, individual artistic interpretation, the importance of theory and fundamentals, and the vitality of continued spiritual formation. The Choristers will perform during selected services throughout the year. The choir is directed by Bethany Bakker. If your child is interested in participating or you would like to help with the choir, contact stbs.choristers@gmail.com

For more information or to get plugged in, please contact:

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