

THE BRANCH

TELLING THE STORIES OF ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
LATE PENTECOST, AUGUST 2012



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



ALL THAT I HAVE



St. Bartholomew's
EPISCOPAL CHURCH



St. Bartholomew's
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Staff

Clergy:

The Rev. Dr. Jerry Smith, *Rector*
The Rev. Dixon Kinser, *Associate Rector*
The Rev. David Wilson, *Pastoral Assistant*
The Rev. Ian Morgan Cron, *Liturgical Assistant*
The Rev. Stu Phillips, *Liturgical Assistant*

Office:

Pam White, *Director of Operations*
Jane Long, *Office Manager*
Leslie Hicks, *Administrative Assistant*
Teresa Robinson, *Childcare Coordinator*

Parish Ministry:

Carla Schober, *Director for Family & Children's Formation*
Sally Chambers, *Director of Communications & Assistant Director for Youth Formation*
Bev Mahan, *Verger & Assistant to the Rector for Liturgy*
Robert Smith, *Assistant to the Rector for Pastoral Care*
Shelby Hoggard, *Children's Formation Assistant*
Gaylene Latham, *Nursery 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

Whitney Stone, *Sr. Warden*; Joe Flynn, *Jr. Warden*;

Judson Abernathy, David Cropp, Matt Hardy, Dennis Holt, Kay Morreale, Trey Myatt, Larissa Root, Rachel Sefton, Brince Wilford, Sandy Wood

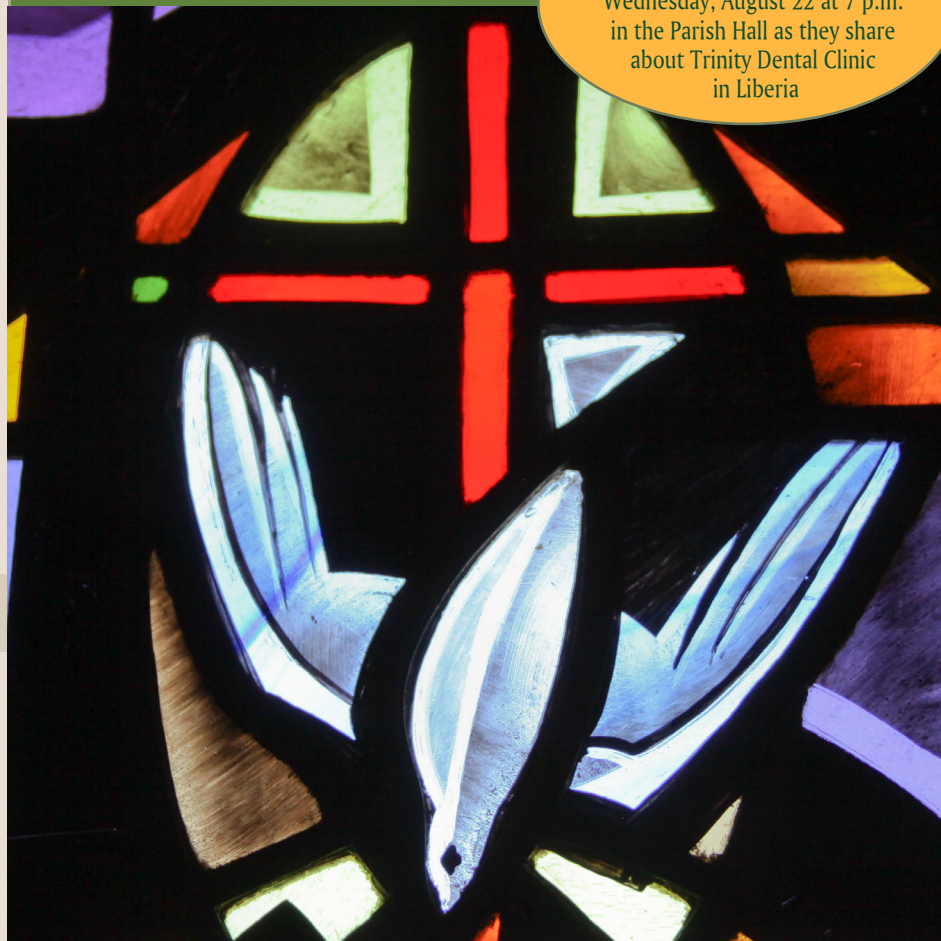
Dan Cleary, *Treasurer*; Gary Mumme, *Clerk*.

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Hear more stories from Kristin and Keith Chapman on Wednesday, August 22 at 7 p.m. in the Parish Hall as they share about Trinity Dental Clinic in Liberia



Above: Stained glass from the sanctuary: the symbol of the Holy Spirit who equips us for ministry.

Cover Shot: Anne Goldthorpe delights at the end of the day during Kaleidoscope.



Busy? Who's Busy?

Gifts, guilt & ministry

What is it that life seems to just keep getting busier and busier? I had hoped that it might start to slow down at some point, but that sure doesn't seem to be the case.

This month's ministry fair will put one more tug on your heart to be exercising your gifts and taking an active role in the Body of Christ here at St. B's.

The thing is though, we don't want anyone to feel guilty. My theory is that if

everyone in the community shared their gifts, then the burden wouldn't fall on anyone to be doing more than they ought. Well, it's a good theory!

The problem is that lots of people are either over or under used. Historically 20% of the people in a church do 80% of the ministry, and 20% carry 80% of the financial burden.

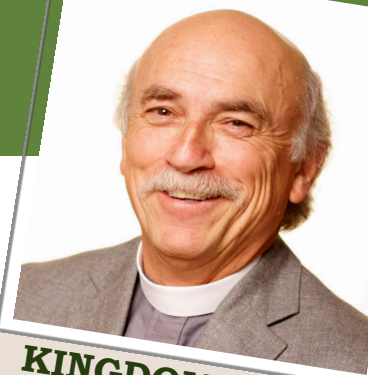
Wouldn't it be wonderful to make a mockery of that statistic?

Paul, the apostle, made it quite clear that we are all gifted and that our calling in Christ is to use our gifts for the advancement of the Kingdom and in service to others.

Jesus suggested that if we were faithful in using our gifts, more would be given; but if we weren't, then even what we had would be taken away.

It seems that the way is reasonably plain. God has called and gifted us in our baptism and now encourages us to be using these for the advancement of His Kingdom and the edification of His people.

When Paul explains that we are co-workers with Christ, he was implying that God was really depending on us. This is rather awe inspiring! God depending on us when we are so used to being the ones depending on Him.



KINGDOM TALK
by Fr. Jerry Smith
Rector

jerrysmith@stbs.net

We know how we feel when it seems that He has let us down. I wonder if he has the same reaction when we are negligent in our responsibility?

As we move into this autumn season I would invite you to take up the invitation of Christ to join us in Gospel ministry here at St B's. Find a spot where your gifts can be used and partner with others to see the church blessed and the Kingdom of God grow.

ON ANOTHER NOTE:

We have instituted some creative Wednesday night programming this fall and would encourage you to come and join us on the journey of faith. We promise to keep you posted as to what is going with the hope that you will share our excitement as we share this journey together.



Fr. Jerry cooks for our teenagers at a summer house party hosted by Marjie and him.



Children in the Pew

Children, worship and St. B's

Children need to be in our worship services. There, I've said it. I'll probably rub some people wrong because sometimes there's a sense that "children should be seen but not heard." You can imagine what I've heard over the years. Responses like, "Why was that child making all that noise in service. It's distracting and those parents should know better." Or, "Isn't that why we have Sunday school and children's church?" At times I get the sense that my role as children's pastor is to provide childcare so worship can be kid-free. Don't get me wrong. I'm not advocating more noise, more restlessness or any type of non-worshipful distraction. Anyone who works with me knows I love structure and boundaries. I fully appreciate everyone's need for quiet and contemplation. And I'm certainly not trying to build a case to make the job I

love disappear. However, I am asking for us to consider what worship in a church is really about from a big picture perspective. What are we teaching our children about their importance in the body of Christ by segregating them?

I was raised going to church. My family went to first service together, then to Sunday school. It was fairly routine that I found it difficult to sit still. I squirmed, whimpered, pouted and on many occasions drifted off to sleep only to have my Dad's elbow wake me to his stern glance. Worshipping in church was not something that came normal to me. However, through the years I grew to understand and appreciate the importance my parents placed on worshipping together. It wasn't that they imparted to me any wise word to help me along. I learned by their example. I learned through the



THE WONDER OF IT ALL

by Carla Schober

Director of Family &
Children's Formation
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patience of those around me and through consistent expectations. We worshipped as a family; we worshipped as a church. We all were in training together.

Over the Summer I re-read the book, "Parenting in the Pew" by Robbie Castleman. Castleman brought up a worthwhile consideration: "Success in anything begins with an attitude toward the positive; an expectation of accomplishment. Preparing your children for worship is to train them to have an attitude of love and peace and the expectation of praise and thanksgiving." She adds, "Parenting in the pew helps you pay attention to the most important things you can ever train your child to do: worship. Worship is the only thing we get to do forever."

We all need children in our church - all meaning single, married, parents, grandparents, professionals, artists, members and visitors. We all need them as much as they all need us. Because ultimately worship is about Kingdom life; it's about learning and growing together in the love of Jesus.



Fr. Dixon invites the children up around the altar to worship and learn during the instructed Eucharist on July 29.

Consider this month how we might worship as a whole church family: parents & grandparents; single & married; children & professionals. Continue the conversation.



Special Events Childcare at St. B's

Things parents should know



TAKING CARE OF OUR CHILDREN
by Teresa Robinson
Child Care Coordinator
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Special events childcare refers to on-site church special events at times other than Sunday mornings such as mid-week classes, rehearsals or meetings; evening services and other events. Childcare will be generally provided for children up to the age of 4

years old; parents of children 5 years and older are encouraged to bring their children with them to events that are "church-wide and family friendly." Exceptions to this standard may include such occasions as Anglicanism 101, Parish Choir rehearsals, etc, when older age children would also be involved. Childcare will not be offered for church-wide adult only events or any event when alcohol is involved.

Childcare will always be announced to the congregation when offered via e-news, Sunday bulletin inserts and event invitations when applicable. Advance reservation (4 days before event) is required to ensure the safety of all children with the proper ratio of caregivers to children present. If a reservation is not made by the deadline, the church cannot guarantee walk ups requesting childcare will be admitted. If a situation arises with extra children and not enough adults, those families not RSVPing will be politely turned away for

childcare. This protocol must be followed for the safety of the children. Our desire is not to turn anyone away so it must be emphasized to the staff, clergy, vestry and leadership of the church that it is part of each parent's responsibility to RSVP.

In general, parents will RSVP (always include the names & ages of children involved) by calling the Church Office at 377-4750 or by emailing churchoffice@stbs.net.

Also, PLEASE NOTE, while the church underwrites and/or shares the cost of childcare, we ask that all staff, clergy, ministry coordinators and parents help us be good stewards of our resources and allow 48 hours notice if there are changes that affect the childcare for upcoming events.

This article is talking about **childcare**, not nursery. **Nursery** is provided on Sunday as part of the Christian formation of our children during services on Sunday.

"St. B's is not a place where you just drop off your child, but it is a community. You know it from the first moment of seeing Suzy smiling at the bottom of the stairs to when you leave and everyone says a word to you."

- m.d.o. parent



St. B's Mother's Day Out

Are you looking for a learning experience for your child with structured play, in a safe, Christ-centered nurturing environment?

St. B's MDO offers far more than just child care. Our enthusiastic teachers genuinely care about children and take time to help each child discover a fascinating world of play and learning. St. B's partners with families in the development of each child. We invite you to come and take a tour of our program.

M.D.O. has openings for toddlers.
Please contact Suzy Floyd at
stbspreschool@stbs.net.



God is Calling St. B's

Senior Warden's Report



**FROM THE
WARDENS**
by Whitney Stone
Senior Warden
wstone@stbs.net

What is God calling St. B's to during this season of our life together? This is one of the questions that was asked during the staff and Vestry retreat a few months ago. With the exception of a few, the senior staff and Vestry took time apart for a Friday evening and Saturday morning to look at the fabric of St. B's and how we can learn from our history, led by Fr. Randy Hoover-Dempsey. It was a real blessing to have him back to lead us on this journey.

As we looked back, Fr. Randy encouraged us to approach this Vestry year with the posture of "we're wrong." You can imagine the initial reception of that idea from a room full of people called to leadership! After all, we are used to asserting our position that "I'm right." That wasn't the point. The point was that if we approach God's mission in and through our community at St. B's with the idea that we know what is best, we might be missing what God truly wants of us. We might not be "catching the wind of the Spirit" (in keeping with our them from the annual meeting) if we insist on our agenda. God may just have an agenda not even imagined. God wants a humble spirit in His leaders.

Lastly, Fr. Randy encouraged us to "stick with it" even when disagreement and

conflict arise. Something he highlighted really stuck with me. Our propensity as humans is to insist that those we are in community with get behind our ideas and agenda. If they don't, well, they must not like me. Our personal relationships with one another do not depend on a group think mentality. God created us as unique individuals, and we all bring our gifts to the table. Just because someone disagrees with me does not mean that person no longer wants to be in community with me. This is what we need to carry forward in our Vestry year. We will not always agree with each other, but we are committed to serving St. B's as the leadership team, alongside the staff.

I think I can speak for the rest of the Vestry and say that we left that time away as a cohesive group ready to put our own agendas aside and truly seek where God wants us to go this year.

I'm really excited about this group of leaders! We are all very unique and bring different perspectives and gifts to the table. Sometimes this makes for some lively discussion. I sense a real desire to prayerfully engage with God and each other. We will take our responsibility and stewardship of the resources you have committed to St. B's very seriously. At our first meeting with the new Vestry, one new member said, "I want to look back at the end of my three years on Vestry and see that we have accomplished something." I think that is a good summary of where this Vestry begins this year. Fr. Jerry, Fr. Dixon and the rest of the staff are casting a vision of where we need to go, and we are going to listen and try to implement that vision. My intent is not to maintain the status quo. My hope is that we move ahead this year, not in front of God's leading, but always following the prods we hear by listening to our Father as a community of leaders.

Peace, Whitney

CONNECT
EQUIP
SERVE
GROW

ST. B'S
MINISTRY
FAIR

SUNDAY,
AUGUST 19
9:45 - 12:45
IN THE PARISH HALL

coffee tasting,
munchies, ministry
displays, sign-ups, gift
baskets, prizes.

COME
&
BELONG



Peace in the Midst of Chaos

What are your gifts?



Using your God-given gifts can bring you a sense of peace even when it seems your world is falling apart. My wife Holly and I have had a hard journey since last fall when I had a heart attack and I was out of work for four months. Several things have been helping me make it one day at a time: faith in God, the love and support of Holly and my family, and writing. While I currently work in retail, I pray to return to writing or a related field, and I long for opportunities to write, because stringing words into sentences brings me peace.

In my walk with Christ, I have come to realize there are two basic types of gifts: vocational gifts and other gifts, which I call non-vocational. Writing and editing are my God-given vocational gifts, which I have used in the past as a reporter, as an editor, and as a freelance writer. An ability to relate to others is one of my non-vocational gifts. Holly says my empathy for others who are less fortunate is a gift of mine as well.

Not all your gifts have to be used in your vocation. I have used my gifts of empathy to volunteer for charitable causes such as fundraisers to support cancer patients and helping the homeless.

The Scriptures talk about gifts, particularly in 1 Corinthians 12. Verses 7-10 (NIV) say:

⁷ Now to each one the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good. ⁸ To one there is given through the Spirit a message of wisdom, to another a message of knowledge by means of the same Spirit, ⁹ to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by that one Spirit, ¹⁰ to another miraculous powers, to another prophecy, to another distinguishing between spirits, to another speaking in different kinds of tongues, and to still another the interpretation of tongues.

Reading has always been a complimentary interest to my gift of writing, one which in my teenage and early adult years eventually led me to reporting after I had trouble identifying what I wanted to do. My love of current events and politics also pointed me to journalism. You may have hobbies or interests that could lead you into a career you would never have dreamed of – pray and to listen to your heart's interests and connect the dots until you see a pattern.

I said earlier that writing brings me peace. I realize that now that I work in a totally unrelated job. When I was a reporter, I did not realize what a gift God had given me. I enjoyed the adrenaline rush of gathering news and writing on deadline. Only rarely during

my last few years as a reporter did I stop and think about how writing also provided a sense of peace.

It was only last year that I began to truly realize what a gift God had given me in writing, after I had left journalism. Several people had told me that writing was a gift of mine, and after the third or fourth person said that, I finally began to accept that maybe God wanted me to continue writing and would provide me opportunities to write again.

What are your God-given gifts?

The place where God calls you is the place where your deep gladness and the world's deep needs meet.

-Frederick Buechner,
"Wishful Thinking"

Take a spiritual gift inventory or learn more about spiritual gifts under the "equip" tab at www.stbs.net.



The Great Thanksgiving

Why we do what we do in the service

On the fifth Sunday of July, we offered another in our series of instructed Eucharists. Our topic was the Great Thanksgiving, or the Eucharistic Prayer. This prayer follows the offertory and begins with the familiar greeting, "The Lord be with you." The Great Thanksgiving is a drama, a re-enactment of the offering Christ made of His life for our sake. The prayer summarizes the history and the future of our salvation. In praying this prayer, we do what Jesus himself asked us to do: thank God, and recall all that He has done for us in the life, death, and resurrection of Christ.

There are four parts of the Eucharistic Prayer, and each corresponds to a different action of Jesus at the Last Supper. He 1) *took* our offering of bread and wine, 2) *blessed* it, 3) *broke* it, and 4) *gave* it back to us as sacraments of His body and blood. Listen for these parts next time you are in a service of Holy Communion.

Our prayer book provides four versions of the Eucharistic Prayer in Rite II, beginning on page 361. There are some differences between them, and many churches use all four in the course of a liturgical year. All versions contain



WALK THIS WAY by Bev Mahan

Verger & Assistant to the
Rector for Liturgy



"Orans" hand position during the Great Thanksgiving of the Eucharist

these elements:

- Thanksgiving for creation.
- Acknowledgement of sin.
- Celebration of redemption.

Listen. Do you hear them as we pray?

All versions of the prayer contain the "words of institution," which are the words Jesus spoke to His disciples at the Last Supper in which He instituted the practice of communion. "Take, eat, this is my Body...", and "Drink this, all of you..."

And all versions of the Eucharistic Prayer ask God to bless and sanctify to bread to be the Body of Christ, and the wine to be His Blood.

Watch the celebrant during the Great Thanksgiving. Why does he hold his hands out during most of the prayer? This is called the orans position, and is probably the most ancient form of prayer, the one Jesus knew. It connotes an openness to and acceptance of God. It is not limited to use by priests or during the Eucharist. Try it sometime in your private prayer or in church. Maybe the position of your hands will have a powerful effect on your spirit.

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THEOLOGY OF OUR WORSHIP AT ST. B'S

by Eric Wyse, Director of Music

The vision for music in worship at St. Bartholomew's is one of worship, through musical expression, of the Triune God with all our beings, with all of our emotions, and with all of our intellect—hence we worship joyfully and exuberantly, as well as meditatively and reverently.

Our focus begins with *who God is*: in songs of *adoration* and *praise* we worship Him and proclaim His goodness, greatness, love, mercy, holiness and all of His attributes, asking nothing in return but to enjoy His presence. We then move to expressions of *thanksgiving* for *what He has done for us*—in all that he has given to us. Songs of *penitence* remind us of our sins, our need for forgiveness, and resolve to live rightly. With songs of *oblation*, we offer both our resources and our lives to God for His service. With songs of prayer, we ask for *what we desire and need*, when we bring to God our *intercessions* and *petitions*, on behalf of others, and for ourselves...

continued at www.stbs.net under the "equip" tab



Thanksgiving

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Speaking of body position, the prayer book invites us to either stand or kneel during the Great Thanksgiving. It is the custom at St B's to kneel. Which do you think is the more recent tradition? Kneeling is the one many Episcopalians grew up with, but standing is the more ancient posture for prayer.

Have you ever noticed that the Celebrant touches the containers of bread and wine during the Eucharistic Prayer? Why does he do that? It is a sign that God's spiritual presence is poured into these real, tangible objects. The priest performs these actions, using Jesus' own words, as a part of a succession going all the way back to Christ. All priests are ordained and consecrated by a bishop who is in a line of bishops going all the way back to the apostles who were with Jesus in the upper room in Jerusalem, sharing in the last supper.

There is also a lot of bowing going on at the altar. Why are they doing that? It is in reverence for these things that now, by the grace of God, have become for us the Body and Blood of Christ.

While the celebrant speaks for all of us in the prayer of thanksgiving, the entire congregation affirms all that is said with a heart-felt "AMEN." at the end. You'll notice it is the only AMEN in all caps in the entire service, in fact in the entire prayer book. Speak it with conviction.



The Priest offers the bread and the wine using the words of Jesus: do this in remembrance.



The Priest invites the Holy Spirit to sanctify the bread and the wine. The Priest then crosses himself and asks God to sanctify us, also. The Priest then blessed the bread and wine by making the sign of the cross above them.



The Priest lifts the bread and wine for the people of God as the congregation affirms all that has been said in unison with AMEN.

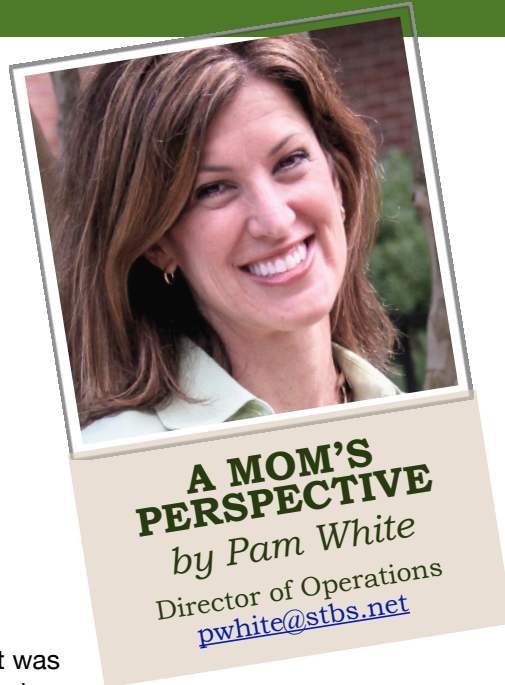


K a l e i d o s c o p e

St. B's home-made summer day camp for children

This summer our 7 year old son, Jackson, participated in the first ever Kaleidoscope summer camp at St. Bartholomew's. It was a week-long camp organized by Christy Holmes, Kristin Kinser and Carla Schober. God had placed the idea of a "St. B's summer camp" on Christy Holmes's heart in the spring of 2012 and from there the vision, planning and organization of Kaleidoscope began.

As Jackson came home from Kaleidoscope each day I would ask him several typical "mom" questions..."How was your day? Did you have fun? What did you learn? Who did you hang out with? etc., etc." His answers were always positive and he was glad he was attending the camp. As parents we were pleased that he was having fun and learning about God at the same time.



It was not until two weeks after the camp had ended that we truly learned what our son had received from his participation in Kaleidoscope and the tremendous impact it made on him and our family.

It was a weekday morning and our little alarm clock, "Jackson," came quietly into our room with a bowl of water and a towel. I looked at him and asked "What's up Jackson?" On a typical morning he usually comes running in and jumps into bed with us and we talk for a while and then he asks to go downstairs to his playroom or watch "Pokemon." On this particular morning he did not ask to go play or watch TV but explained, "I want to wash your feet." He was very quiet about it and he started with washing my feet first. Malcolm had already gotten up and was in the room next door, and he went in and asked him to come over so he could wash his feet too. I asked Jackson why he was doing this and he responded "because that's what Jesus did and we are supposed to serve others and those that serve are first in heaven".....

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As a community we practice "washing feet" every year during Holy Week on Maundy Thursday. This is a sacramental way of remembering our call to care for each other.



K a l e i d o s c o p e

continued from pg. 10

He then proceeded to go downstairs and fix breakfast (buttered toast) for Malcolm and me and then clean up the dishes afterwards. I asked him where he learned this and he said Kaleidoscope. He mentioned that Fr. Dixon had taught about serving others. It was amazing to me that as he participated throughout the week I would ask him what he learned and how things went and he would mention a few things but

not go into great detail. Then he comes out with the message and true understanding of serving others two weeks after the camp ended.

As parents we read the Bible with Jackson, attempt to impart "words of wisdom" on him and lead by example. However, at Kaleidoscope, the teaching, the creativity, and the caring adults and older children who volunteered made a great impact on his thinking and

helped to bring the scripture to life in a very real way. You see, they washed each other's feet during camp so he was able to live out what he was taught and then carry it into other parts of his young life by taking the initiative to serve his parents at home. This valuable lesson has carried over into other areas of Jackson's thoughts and actions as well.

Kristin, Carla and the many adults and older children who assisted during the week. From a parent whose child participated, I want to thank all involved for giving and serving God and St. B's in this way. You each have and are making a huge impact not with just what you taught and did during Kaleidoscope but how you walk out your faith every day!

I know Kaleidoscope took a great deal of effort, time and prayer by Christy,



Praying in Faith

Praying for healing

How do you pray a prayer of faith about really big things?

I have found only one way that I can pray in faith - in the same way that Jesus did. That way is to see what the Father is doing and, then, to pray accordingly. This method of praying may be slow and a lot of work until you get better at hearing and seeing what God is doing. When praying for someone for physical or inner healing, God is always faithful to show us what He is doing, if the person does, indeed, want healing.

We cannot manipulate God - there is no magic formula for getting God to do what we want. Prayer is not trying to manipulate God; that at best is putting Him to the test and at worst is a form of witchcraft. Prayer is moving toward God on the basis of faith.

Sometimes, especially in inner healing, there is a lot of interference from deceiving spirits who don't want the person healed. Then it may take considerable effort in listening and discernment to cut through the deception to see what the Father is doing.

When I have to pray in faith about something personal or important, it is usually much harder. I learned how to work through issues to get to a prayer of faith thirty years ago when I had Hodgkin's disease. I had three rounds of chemotherapy, followed by a month of radiation. The doctors wanted to do another month of radiation, followed by another three rounds of chemotherapy. I did not want any more treatment.

I began to pray about stopping any further treatment. But I could not yet pray to be healed directly by God. I knew that my prayer had to be a prayer of faith. I had to be able to stand on that prayer and God's answer

for the rest of my life.

I needed answers to several questions before I could pray in faith. Did I abide in Jesus? Did His word abide in me? Did I know that God's healing without further medical treatment was in His perfect will? Would it be to the glory of God (John 5:1-8)? The answers may seem obvious, but they were not obvious to me. The answer to the third question - was it His will - was especially difficult to answer.

Did I abide in Jesus? I searched my heart. I had accepted Him as Lord and Savior, I was empowered by the Holy Spirit, I prayed, studied the Bible, went to church, and was obedient to what I thought He was telling me. I decided that I was doing the best I could.

Did His word abide in me? Jesus said, "Remain in me, and I will remain in you." (John 15:4). The entire Bible is full of God's faithfulness, love, and mercy. If I believed what it said, and if I abided in Jesus, then He must abide in me. I prayed for about a week to get to this point.

Did I know that God's healing without



SPIRITUAL PRACTICES *by Bonnie Bashor*

further medical treatment was in His will? Hearing the answer to this question took much prayer - about four weeks of almost constant prayer. I realized that I could not pray for direct healing from God if the motive for my prayer was fear. I had to be willing to do everything the way God wanted me to. If He, for His own good reason, wanted me to have more treatment, then I had to be willing. In reality, I was afraid of more treatment.

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A Year of Meaningful Conversations

St . B ' s W o m e n t h i s y e a r



ST. B'S WOMEN
by Abigail Dowell
stbswomen@stbs.net

To begin this new school year, St. B's ECW board has recently expanded to include two new members, Becky Hornsby and Mavis Harrop, bringing the total number of the leadership group to nine. President Nancy Cason attributes this expansion to the growth of the organization as a whole, in terms of both the number of events held each year and the

numbers of women participating. "The chairs of our three committees, fellowship, outreach, and spiritual, will not only help to determine the kinds of events that would best serve the women in our church, but will work closely with their committees to implement plans for these activities."

Former VP Marjie Smith will step into the role of president and will lead the board for 2012-13. Brooke Schroeder will assume the position of vice president, turning responsibilities for chair of the outreach committee to Mavis Harrop. Becky Hornsby will become the first chair of the fellowship committee, and Pam McArthur will continue as chair of spiritual formation as well as chaplain of the board. Beginning their second year on the board are Pat Bowlby as Treasurer, Abby Dowell as communications director, and Lindsay Lee as secretary.

The ECW board believes that this is a year for "meaningful conversations" and desire to create space and activity for the women of St. B's to grow in deeper relationship with one another. Marjie Smith provides insight into this vision:

"It has been an honor to serve as ECW VP for the past two years and it is an equal privilege to serve as incoming president. These are shoes that are difficult to fill. Fortunately, we aren't called to fill someone else's shoes but to leave behind our own footprints. We aren't called to replicate what others have done, but to build on the work of our predecessors.

Nancy has brought to the position over the past year a great deal of energy, planning and visioning. She leaves behind a sturdy ship ready to sail. I look forward to being part of the navigation team. My vision is to spend this year examining how the women of St. B's can be closer friends with each other. I will be speaking about accountability at our fall retreat. At the retreat, we will also have the opportunity to try on an accountability group methodology. We often think of accountability in a negative context, where someone experiences dramatic failure and must enter into a disciplinary or redemptive process of open evaluation, termed accountability.

I am referring to the kind of accountability that is not based on failure but on our natural design to live in community where we are loved and understood. With this kind of accountability, relationships are deliberately sought and deliberately built. This cannot happen without making it a priority. Within these committed relationships, we can unfold our strengths, weaknesses, dreams and fears. Here we can accept and give support and insight. So, this year we will continue to provide an environment where women can relax, learn, have fun and grow in relationship with each other."



*The Hat
Fashion
Show at the
women's
spring tea
in June.*

ecw
WOMEN OF ST. B'S



It took about two more weeks to pray through the fear, but finally I was at a point of trusting God to give me the grace to stand further therapy. I did not want it, but I knew that it would be bearable if that was what God wanted. His grace is always sufficient.

The next hurdle was to really believe that God would be pleased for me to ask for His direct healing. After another week of prayer, God finally got through.

Would His healing be to the glory of God? That was partly answered by the fact that he would be pleased to do it. I knew that anything that revealed God would be to His glory.

But, then, to be careful and in unity with my brothers and sisters, I asked

them about it. One sister said she was too close and sent me to a couple at another church. They prayed with me and agreed that it would be pleasing to God to answer my prayer.

Finally, I prayed specifically, for total healing of the Hodgkin's disease and any side-effects of the treatment. I prayed out loud, believed it, and received it. Today, 30 years later, God has been faithful. I have been able to stand on that prayer when circumstances could have been alarming and scary.

This struggle to pray in faith for my own healing taught me much that can be generalized to praying for anything.

These kinds of prayer must be in faith. The answers to the same questions that I asked for myself must be

answered, especially by the people praying, but also by the person asking for prayer. It is essential to see what the Father is doing. The following are necessities for people praying in faith:

1. *They must abide in Jesus.*
2. *He must abide in them.*
3. *The prayer must be the will of God.*
4. *The prayer must be to the glory of God (it must reveal Him).*
5. *The prayer must be specific (this can only come from a gift of knowledge - seeing what the Father is doing).*
6. *The prayer must be said.*

Practice in listening to God can happen instantly; other times it takes hours to days to weeks to get to the point of praying in faith. We cannot get ahead of God. We have to see what He wants now and then pray it.

Deposits Due in September A Pilgrimage to the Holy Land March 3 - 12, 2013, with Father Jerry



Optional add-on: 7 day pilgrimage through Turkey
More information at www.stbs.net



A Story of Applause

Thinking about the unseen



by Keith Chapman
keith.chapman@hopesmiles.org

The other day I sat staring at the numbers from Hope Smiles' second dental outreach to China. Our first was just July of last year, during which it seemed like we spent most of our time trying to build trust. That trust was no doubt gained. Although this year's stats showed a significant increase in procedures, also impressive was the price tag on

traveling there for the large team of 11, plus some family members. Granted, for the most part, everyone was paying their own way to go, so it really costs Hope Smiles very little; but questions always sprout in my mind from exposure to the "relief and development scene": Can that money be put to better use with a more sustainable solution? China has some good dental care, so could we provide more care by just paying for these people to have treatment locally? Could we instead provide a scholarship for a young Chinese Christian to go to dental school?

Last year we unknowingly (and mostly in hindsight) entered into this trust building mission – giving a lot of education, explaining the benefit of certain procedures and prevention, etc. Each morning very few of the nannies from the foster home in which we worked would be present at the clinic. Slowly throughout the day, they would come in small

groups, many of which had to be encouraged by co-workers and other staff, and yet still refused treatment.

This year was a far different picture. Every morning the dental team met a group of at least 30 of the nannies waiting for care. As if that isn't good enough news, there is more to the story: Each morning when the Hope Smiles team arrived, the nannies stood and applauded them. I have heard similar stories recounted by dozens of folks who've taken part in missions, and my wife and I remember this dynamic from our first trip to Honduras. Getting off the bus in a village, I think we all felt like an NFL team getting off the plane in our home town with the Superbowl trophy. It's not about feeling like a star, but there is something bigger than just dental care going on here.

One patient began to show her feelings by simply touching the arm of Celeste, the hygienist who treated her. The touch on the arm evolved into a brief hug, then her feelings were unleashed with a hug that she would not release literally for several minutes as both of them embraced each other and wept.

Some chalk this type of reaction up to sheer appreciation. They are just so thankful for what is being done and there are perhaps less cultural restrictions to showing it. In Central America or Africa I might be able to buy this, but "unreserved" is hardly an adjective describing the people and culture of China. I believe it's more than appreciation. For one thing it's not just the treatment, but even the way they are treated, and

continued on pg. 16



Applause

continued from pg. 15

the God behind it. I recently wrote about experience over activity – for example, it's not just about painting a building on a missions team, but the experience that surrounds the painting; everything else going on. I believe those nannies in China were having an experience, not just treatment. As I pointed out before, dental care is available in China. My guess would be, just as we wouldn't see here, dentists in China don't get a standing ovation when they walk in their clinics.

I recently spoke at our old church in Texas and the New Testament reading was one that had been read in that same sanctuary for both of my parents' funerals during the last four years: "So we fix our eyes not on what is seen,

but on what is unseen, since what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal." (2 Cor 4:18) That verse was speaking primarily to suffering, but strongly speaks to missions, much of which deals with suffering, specifically to trying to balance "relief work" with development. This verse does not say to *ignore* what is seen. If we did, we could ignore the physical suffering and only attend to their spiritual needs. But Paul does tell us not to *fix* our eyes on what is seen, because there is so much going on that cannot be seen. When I heard the story of applause, I was reminded of the unseen and its importance.



All of my questions about whether or not this was worth it were not completely put to rest, but there was great assurance in the story of applause that God was doing something "immeasurably more" than could be imagined through the service of the providers. Does anyone hear the theme song for The Green Lantern?

Creation Care hosted St. B's Gardener Market this summer in July and August. Donations came from the back yards of St. B's members. Money raised is being used to purchase a larger compost bin.



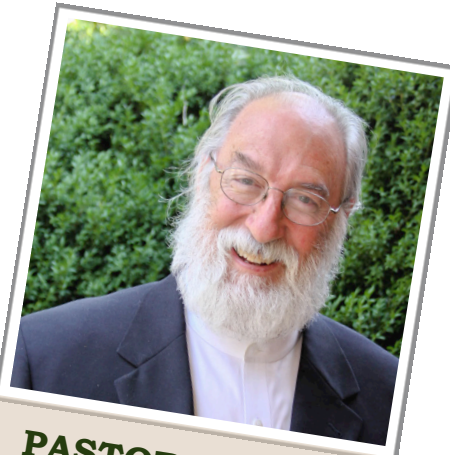
C h e s s , A n y o n e ?

A P a s t o r a l P e r s p e c t i v e

When I was recruiting and training prospects to be professional sales people, I looked for several things. Experience was not a prerequisite. I wanted high energy, intelligent, self-motivated people with a strong ego. High levels of empathy were very important. I used a two hour psychological test administered through the same people that designed and administered the SAT exams. The testing was expensive for the time (late 70's, early 80's), but the support was worth it. Detail attributes were not a huge need in my realm, as I had procedures in place to handle that. I wanted people who could "feel" the emotions and thoughts of those they were dealing with (high empathy) and could respond to those stimuli (intelligence). And yet they needed to be able to deal with adversity and rejection (strong ego and self-motivation). Through this I was able to build a strong and customer-focused team.

One thing that I always wanted to be on the look-out for was the pride factor, or the over-estimation of self-worth. This was a tricky area as self-confidence is so important in the sales arena. I was able to temper this through the team concept. Every one has something to offer. Whether it be small or large has no bearing, and who can truly decide what is "small" and what is "large"?

The important thing, to me, is to be a part of the team. To be a part of the on-going mission of Faith is a goal and



PASTORAL CARE
by Robert Smith
Assistant to the Rector for
Pastoral Care
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an obligation. We are pulled to service in many different and wonderful ways. We do not need to be the "All-American" or the "Hall of Famer" in our dedication to service; we just need to follow the teachings and urgings of those whom we entrust with that - our spiritual leaders.

As we walk, however slowly, along this Path enlightened for us by the teachings of Fathers Jerry, Dixon, Dave, Ian and Stu, the goal is to keep on walking and learning. Will we stumble? Yes! Will we get back up? Yes! But we all have a place on, a right to travel on, an obligation to follow and serve the path.

We cannot do everything (a subject for another time), but we can do something. I have spoken of the need and ease for bringing joy and

happiness into the lives of those around us. But whether we assist with the Youth Sunday School, where needs are great, or if we lend our talents to the music ministry, or if we spread gravel on the walking paths, all are equally noble. The goal is to be involved; the level is up to you. We have 500 to 600 - plus who are in attendance on any given Sunday. Opportunities abound for your involvement and the assimilation into the St. B's family/team. Do not be afraid that perhaps your talents are not equal to someone else's talents. We all have differing, but equally important talents and opportunities to serve. Let the "Wind of the Spirit" guide you to where your opportunities will serve. Look on the bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall, and discern which Vestry member is tasked with assisting in differing areas of Service of interest to you. Ask them how you can help. Follow up with them. This is your Parish and Church family. And we all walk together on this Path... One step at a time, but ultimately in Glory!

And remember one thing, when the "game" is over, the pawn and the king return to the same box.



We care about you and those you love. Part of the way we support and care for each other is through prayer. Please email pastoralcare@stbs.net if we can support you through prayer or visitation.



Jesus on the Autism Spectrum

Part I: What is the Autism Spectrum?

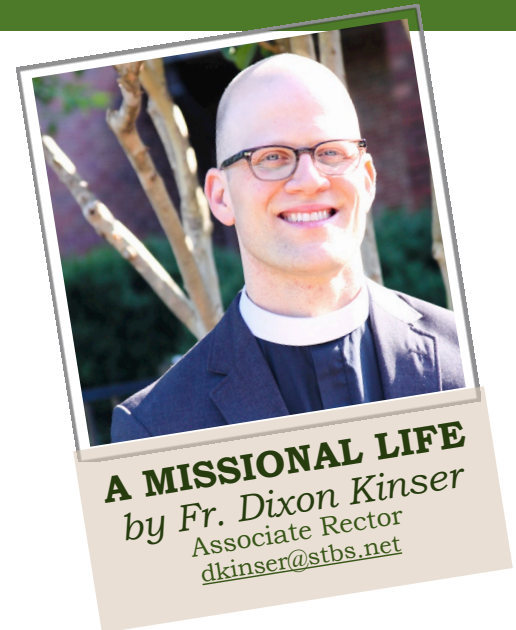
You may not know it, but Autism has a patron saint. By this I do not mean a public figure that represents the archetype of the Autism Spectrum (no such person could even exist – but more on that later.) No, I mean there is an honest-to-God, canonized saint in the Roman Catholic tradition who has been assigned, by the Vatican, the role of heavenly advocate for those with neurological disorders.

That saint's name?

Saint Bartholomew.

That's right. Our namesake is also the patron saint of Autism, which is a powerful coincidence if you have noticed what's been happening in our community. Over the last seven years or so, more and more families are bringing children into (and having children in) our faith community who are on the Autism Spectrum. If you're unfamiliar with Autism Spectrum Disorder let me give you a crash course.

Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) is a developmental delay that affects the neurological development of the brain. The disorder manifests itself on a spectrum ranging from mild to severe. On the mild end you might find someone who is extremely knowledgeable and passionate about their topics of interest, while social cues are totally lost on them (think Sheldon from the *Big Bang Theory*). While on the severe end you might find someone who is totally non-verbal, uncommunicative, and makes eye contact with no one, including family members (think Dustin Hoffman in *Rain Man*). The spectrum, then, functions like a big umbrella where situations as diverse as the ones I have described above all find a home. So, even though the disorder manifests itself in people's lives very differently, it still comes from the same place. This fact has led to the observation that, "If you've met one kid with Autism, then you've met one kid with Autism." Every person's pathology is unique.



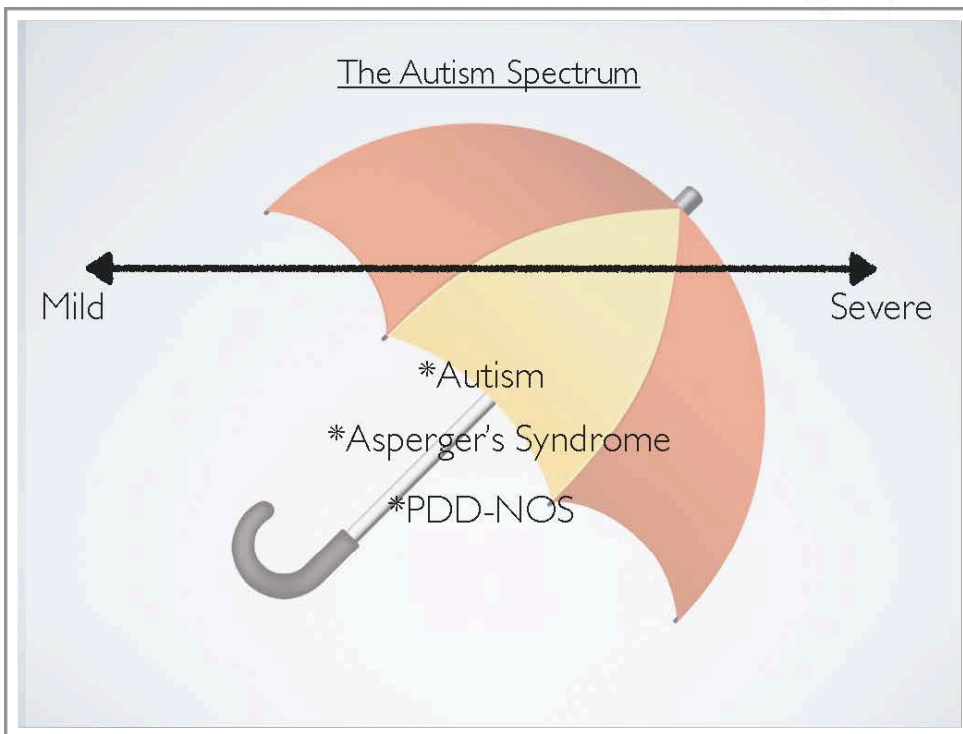
All this brings me back to patron saints.

Right now the national average of children diagnosed with (ASD) is 1 in 88. So, in a room of about 100 kids, one or two are likely to be being on the spectrum. Guess what the ratio is at St. B's? In ministries offered to children between the ages of 3 and 18, we have found a ratio of anywhere from 1 in 40 to 1 in 10. This puts us statistically ahead of the curve at St. B's, which I actually find exciting.

Carla and I are in consistent dialogue about how to put all this knowledge into practice, and I believe the work we do now will lay a positive foundation for the future of the church. With the number of confirmed diagnoses in the United States rising every year, ASD is not going away. It is God's call to our generation to decipher how we both accept ASD as it is, and explore how to train all our children and youth in the way of Jesus, no matter how their brains work. This is a task we are up for and, as we allow God's Spirit to guide us, we will succeed.

Peace,

Dixon



From Glory to Glory

Celebrating the glory that grows within us and among our community

Anniversaries

Donna and Brian Darnell	9/9
Lois and Langley Granberry	9/21
Anna and Scott Kammerer	9/17
Angela and Tim Lauer	9/12
Cindy and Rick Lundgren	9/2
Amber and Rick Penney	9/12
Susan and Joshua Puckett	9/10
Katie and Charlie Reasor	9/19
Carla and David Schober	9/15
Jule and David West	9/15
Holly and Jim Zaher	9/29
Anna and Josh Hayden	10/23
Melody and Jerry Krogman	10/13
Tara and Chad Moore	10/15
Jamie and Trey Myatt	10/31
Lori and Walt Quinn	10/17
Gail and Chuck Richey	10/4
Larissa and Sean Root	10/19
Taylor and Stephen Ryan	10/31
Nyla and Tim Villager	10/18
Tish and Jonathan Warren	10/3
Laura and Jamie Wilhoite	10/20
Amy and Adam Wirdzek	10/24
Mary and Peter Woods	10/21
Suzanne and Jon Zadick	10/7
Kendra and John Allen	11/21
Maggie and Dane Anthony	11/6
Barbara and Bill Ewin	11/26
Natalie and Brian Langlinais	12/1
Lindsay and Josh Lee	11/18
Kathy and John Leo	11/16
Jill and Robert Pullen	11/26
Andrea and Matthew Sullivan	11/28

Edwards, Sibley	09/14
Ferguson, Asher	09/13
Granbery, Abigail	09/11
Hansen, Christine	09/26
Hindalong, Emily	09/18
Hingst, Ellen	09/03
Holt, Hunter	09/14
Kammerer, Lucy Sarah	09/12
Kinzig, Brett	09/24
Kinzig, Wren	09/16
Langlinais, Natalie	09/10
Lauer, Tim	09/05
Lee, Josh	09/06
Lowell, Sonja	09/14
Madeira, Elizabeth	09/06
Marshall, Diane	09/10
Martin, Joseph	09/13
Mayo, Aaron	09/08
Miller, Morgan Elizabeth	09/21
Morant, Victoria	09/20
Morss, Connor	09/16
Mullins, Ladonna	09/15
Pollitt, Nancy	09/25
Puckett, Ison Peter Daniel	09/11
Quinn, Walt	09/28
Ramsay, Beth-Ann	09/21
Ramsay, Thomas	09/16
Rodgers, Dawn	09/20
Schober, David	09/08
Schroeder, Ainsley Vaughan	09/04
Shay, Sonnie	09/20
Simpson, Jamieson Lewis	09/29
Smith, Jerry	09/22
Southwood John	09/11
Southwood, Leslie	09/27
Stranch, Jane	09/17
Weems, Marshall	09/23
West, Dave	09/20
Wilder, Matt	09/17
Wood, Rick	09/27
Wood, Sandy	09/25
Zaher, Ellie	09/03

Holt, Spencer	10/02
Hornsby, Mr Ben	10/16
Hunter, Mr Richard	10/24
Hyer, Julianne	10/25
Insani, John	10/26
James, Elijah	10/30
Johnson, Rebecca	10/28
Kipp, Aaron	10/16
Kipp, Eleanor	10/19
Lauer, Sophia	10/08
Letterman, Katherine Hawkins	10/24
Logan, Corrie	10/05
Lowell, Charlie	10/21
MacLachlan, Greg	10/07
Madeira, Maddy	10/02
Moessner, Joseph Christoph	10/12
Petillo, Katherine	10/22
Pichert, Carolyn	10/07
Pollitt, David	10/14
Pollitt, Hunter	10/16
Pregont, Eva	10/21
Prichard, Chris	10/02
Puckett, Joshua	10/07
Pullen, Alex	10/14
Roberts, Emma Catherine	10/22
Root, Margaret Grace	10/08
Russell, Tyler	10/28
Sale, Andrew	10/23
Schober, Justin	10/14
Simpson, Marshal Loizeaux	10/04
Sullivan, Maggie	10/01
Sullivan, Matthew	10/30
Swihart, Eliza Joy Netherland	10/13
Villager, Tiffany	10/21
Villager, Tim	10/02
Waters, Linda	10/20
Weedman, Margaret Anne	10/18
White, Jackson Lemoyne	10/15
Wilford, Sloane Elizabeth	10/20
Wills Jr, Morgan	10/10
Wilson, David	10/25
Wood, David	10/04
Woolwine, Suzie	10/21
Yennie, Jubal	10/16
Zadick, Matthew	10/27

September Birthdays

Ashcraft, Ric	09/14
Baldwin, Wendy	09/07
Bishop, Ann S.	09/06
Bradley, Michelle	09/18
Buxton, Lila GraceO	9/07
Chapman, Keith	09/24
Chapman, Lauren	09/18
Coleman, Teresa Silva	09/24
Cooper, Juliet	09/11
Courtney, Lily	09/09
Courtney, Rhonda	09/22
Cruz, Isabella Natalia	09/18
Daniel, Greg	09/09
Darnell, Megan	09/10
Dill, Mary Grace	09/15
Downton, John	09/08

October Birthdays

Alcott, John Brannan	10/24
Andrews, Brent	10/25
Bowlby, Katy	10/23
Butler, Ms Abigail	10/03
Chaffee, Mr James	10/12
Clements, Ruthie	10/08
Clinton, Rankin	10/07
Daniel, Rachel	10/07
Deane, Alexandra	10/31
Deane, Mrs Natasha	10/10
Ewin, Mr Bill	10/11
Ewubare, Tega	10/21
Freeman, David	10/01
Garth, Mrs Shirley	10/09
Goldthorpe, Mr Ted	10/01
Granbery, Mrs Lois	10/02

November Birthdays

Abernathy, Mrs Gretchen	11/10
Allen, John	11/02
Andrade, Michelle	11/28
Andrews, Hunter	11/08
Arnold, Rocky	11/25
Chapman, Taylor	11/06
Cleary, Keon	11/24
Clements, George	11/23
Clinton, Cynthia	11/16
Corlew, Donald	11/18
Cunningham, Julie	11/21

Being transformed into His likeness with ever-increasing glory.
from Paul's first letter to the church in Corinth, chapter 3, verse 18.



From Glory to Glory

Celebrating the glory that grows within us and among our community

Daniel, Paul Damien (Damien) 11/04
Deal, Katherine 11/30
Deal, Lynn H. 11/07
Denzel, Mary Elizabeth 11/25
Dumitru, Jessica 11/09
Dunaway, Tommy 11/06
Ferguson, Jay 11/22
Gollapudi, Kellie Barber 11/16
Hall, Elena Sinead 11/16
Hardwick, Allison 11/13
Hayden, John Collier (Collier) 11/20
Hindalong, Steve 11/29
Holmes, Christie 11/16
Jones, Hannah Perryman 11/27
Justiss, Alice 11/03
Kammerer, Nathaniel Charles 11/29
Kelly, Maleah 11/07
Kelly, William 11/04
Kinzig, Emily 11/22
Kinzig, Wilder Elliott Stanton 11/09
Mahan, Beverly 11/02
Martin, Lindsay 11/11
McFadden, Belle 11/09
McGown, Knox 11/30

Merkh, Jonathan 11/17
Miller, Andrew Jacob (Drew) 11/10
Moreno, Jackson Aurelio 11/18
Myatt, Rachel 11/22
Nguyen, Mai Phuong 11/16
Parker, Mary Alice 11/15
Penney, Tabor 11/13
Puckett, Ruby Susan 11/02
Pullen, Will 11/30
Rhea, Robert 11/06
Ries, Jenina 11/10
Robinson, Teresa 11/19
Schoenberger, Joan 11/20
Simpson, Kim 11/19
Stone, Dmitri 11/26
Swihart, Miriam 11/06
Thorpe, Kendall James 11/11
Walker, Carolyn 11/13
Wilhoite, Jamie 11/23
Woolbright, Grace 11/30
Xanthopoulos, Phyllis 11/24
Zadick, Jon 11/20
Zadick, Sarah 11/05

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11/05

Births

Cella Tess 6/27
parents, Jennifer & Michael tess

Samuel Jelks Johnson 7/11
parents, Libby & Jim Johnson

Baptisms

Eleanore Ann Combs 07/08
Rayne Marie Barmer 07/08
Hayden Christopher Watts 07/08
Caleb Michael Hayden 07/22

Death:

Bill Ward 07/15

St. B's Hymn Sing

Sunday, September 9th
6:30 - 7:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary

It's a good day to be together

RSVP for childcare (4 & under) by Wednesday,
September 5th to churchoffice@stbs.net.

