



St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church

Newsletter for the 2008 Easter Season

In This Issue

[Shrine Mont Preview](#)

[Annual Council Reflection](#)

[St. Bart's Outreach](#)

[Adult Education Preview](#)

[Wednesday Education:
Sharing Faith without Losing
Friends](#)

[Sunday Adult Ed: Our
Anglican Vision: Exploring
Liturgy](#)

[Sunday Adult Ed: Gospel
Parallels](#)

[Heifer International](#)

[Annual Meeting Minutes](#)

[Vestry Minute Summaries](#)



St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church

10627 Patterson Avenue
Richmond, Virginia 23242
(804) 740-2101

office@stbartsrichmond.org
www.stbartsrichmond.org

Our Ministry

The Reverend
Haywood Spangler, Ph.D.

The Reverend
Bambi Willis, Asst. Rector

The Reverend David Bul Dau,
Sudanese Outreach Deacon

Kathleen Gambill, Music
Director



To seek, serve, and celebrate Christ in every person, we invite the community to worship with us, to share our gifts, and to grow in Christ's love.

Happy Easter!

What a joyous Easter morning at St. Bart's! The fantastic children and adult choirs, the uplifting liturgy and readings, the inspiring homily, the plentiful familiar and new faces, the tasty refreshments, and the warmth of the Holy Spirit made for a wonderful morning. The most fitting words are, "Alleluia, Alleluia!" Easter is here, and it's exhilarating to say "Alleluia" again.

As we enhance communications, we are trying this email newsletter format. A trial period lets us use it before we commit. The service is not expensive and it has promise in its ease, appearance, and features such as a "click and jump" table of contents, links to our email and website, and a "Join our Mailing List" button.

Continuing with this format depends largely on whether you like it and whether it is as good as it seems. Please email me or talk to me in church to let me know what you think.

The ease of forwarding this email newsletter to friends is an added benefit. If they choose, they can join our mailing list. One can always click "unsubscribe" at the bottom.

As always, communications is work in progress. Recently, we moved from sending monthly newsletters to sending them according to our Christian liturgical calendar seasons. Sounds good, but we realize some problems. For example, Pentecost lasts 28 weeks, far too long for just one newsletter. We are sticking to the liturgical calendar plan until May 11, when you can expect our Pentecost edition. After that, perhaps we'll have Pentecost Part II or a special St. Bart's Day edition on August 24. Thank you in advance for understanding as we work through issues and strive to keep everyone informed. We value your feedback and help.

Cheryl Emory, Senior Warden

cherylemory@comcast.net

Our Vestry

Cheryl Emory, Sr. Warden
John Ely, Jr. Warden
Sarah Bay, Register
Kevin Dyer
Rick Jones
Paul Newell
Brad Reynolds
Lexie Ross
Betty White
Treasurer: Susan Ross

Events Around the Corner

Sundays

8:30 AM: Holy Eucharist I

9:30 AM: Youth Choir

9:30 AM: Adult Education

March 30-May 4: Anglican Vision: Exploring Worship

May 11-25: Gospel Parallels

10:00 AM: Nursery Open

10:30 AM: Youth Education

10:30 AM: Holy Eucharist II

6:00 PM: Healing Prayer

Wednesday Adult Education

April 16-May 14 6:30 PM:
Sharing Faith without Losing Friends

Mon. - Sat. Routine Events

Third Tuesdays 7 PM: Vestry

Thursdays 7 PM: Adult Choir

Saturdays 7:30 AM: Centering Prayer

Special Events

March 25 6:30 PM: Belles of St. Bart's Dinner

April 6: Bring non perishable goods to feed the hungry.

April 13, 20, & 27: Safe Harbor Collection. See the St. Bart's Outreach article.

Sunday, May 4: Support youth outreach. Purchase a Heifer Int. animal.

Sunday, May 11 10:30 AM: Youth Leads Worship

Shrine Mont Preview

Growing in grace ... responding to God's presence ... spending time with family and friends ... eating the best apple butter you've ever tasted ... you can do it all at one time, in one place. It all happens at Shrine Mont.

Each year, members of St. Bart's travel to the mountains of Orkney Springs for a weekend of reflection, relaxation, and "re-creation." We will hold our Shrine Mont retreat on Friday, September 19, through Sunday, September 21. Planning is already underway, and we are eager for others in the parish to become involved sharing ideas about possible activities. The Shrine Mont planning team currently includes Mike and Randy Oglesby, Susan Ross, John and Barbara Ambrose, and Bambi Willis.

We will continue to develop the weekend's schedule around the daily offices led by laypersons who may also facilitate a devotional reflection. Offerings will include a variety of activities and workshops. Ideas under consideration include making and praying the Anglican rosary, a brief overview of liturgy, study and celebration of occasional services, and a brief study of a classic Christian text.

And of course there will be the opportunity for free time sufficient to hike to a mountaintop and see a great view and the famed Shrine Mont cross, to catch up with friends and to make new ones, or to nap on the porch after enjoying a plentiful Shrine Mont family-style meal. On Sunday morning, we will gather at the Cathedral Shrine where Bambi Willis will lead us in a celebration of the Holy Eucharist.

New this year will be a preview of the Shrine Mont experience. On Saturday, June 28, we will hold a mini-retreat at St. Bart's. You can participate in some of the same activities we enjoy at Shrine Mont and enjoy food prepared from the Shrine Mont cookbook. If you are interested in participating in this weekend, please sign up on the list posted on the bulletin board or contact a member of the planning team.

Barbara Ambrose



Annual Council Reflection

I was never quite sure why Haywood asked me to be our congregation's substitute representative to the 23rd Annual Council of the Diocese of Virginia. Since it is hard for me say "No," and since he used the word "substitute," I secretly prayed that I could agree, but in the end not have to go. Well, January 25 rolled around and I was on my way to DC to spend the weekend with not one, but two priests. (Where was my mind?)

Little did I know when I started my 5 AM journey on that cold January morning how enlightening my journey would be. Over the course of the 2-day meeting, there were many highlights:

- Not only was the Shrine Mont camp budget not increased for 2008, it was actually cut by \$6000. However, attendees contributed over \$11,000 on the spot by donations from people who recognize that our children are the future of the church and we need to invest in them.

Ukrop's Golden Gift Certificates

If you use a Ukrop's grocery card, you are earning



Golden Gift Certificate points that can benefit St. Bart's— one point for each dollar spent through March 29.

In late April, Ukrop's will send Golden Gift Certificates with total point balances. *Please consider donating your points to St. Bart's and bring your Ukrop's Golden Gift Certificate to church on or before Sunday, June 9.* (St. Bart's must turn them in to Ukrop's before June 14).

Ukrop's has \$400,000 to divide amongst registered non-profit participants. Please help St. Bart's benefit from this program. Thanks for your support.

- Awards for exemplary service were presented for such things as creating a secondary school in southern Sudan which will serve 250 children, a church from Ashland that has opened a satellite free clinic with the help of a Baptist church and many new programs for the elderly, to name only a few.
- Only a few churches in our diocese met the Virginia plan of voluntary stewardship guidelines. How proud I was that St. Bart's was one of those churches!

Now that the trip is over, am I glad I said yes? Definitely! If I had said no, I would not have gotten the chance to look around a room of every day people with priest's collars standing next to everyday people with no collars, all trying and succeeding each and every day to make a difference. Sometimes I think as parishioners we see the world's problems as so vast, that things will never change. I now say to you, the Episcopal Church of Virginia is making a difference, a big difference. We make a difference through our pledges that keep our churches open and running, as well as through the everyday things we do within our lives and within the life of our church to reach out and touch the needy of the world. So, if Haywood or Bambi ask you to help in some way and your first instinct is to say "no way," take a moment to think, reflect, and pray. I'm glad I did.

Janet Putnam

PS I can do all things through Christ which strengthens me. (Philippians 4:13)



St. Bart's Outreach

Opportunities to share our gifts with our communities

Many thanks to our Outreach Committee for planning multiple and diverse ways for St. Bart's members to share gifts with our surrounding communities.

Keeping in mind that Outreach is continually planning and adding to our offerings, the following events are on the horizon:

- First Sunday in April: Feed the Hungry Sunday—Please bring non-perishable goods to church.
- Last three Sundays in April: Safe Harbor Collection—Collect items for domestic violence shelter. Greatest needs include:
 - GRTC bus tickets in \$5 denominations (available at Kroger Customer Service)
 - Food and Household products such as disinfectant cleaners, juice boxes, economy-size beverages, easy to cook dinner sides, dish washer detergent, laundry detergent, feminine hygiene products, Ibuprofen, batteries, tissues, toilet paper, paper towels, African American hair care products, deodorant, nail clippers, laundry baskets, plastic storage bins (any size), DVD player, eating utensils, plates, cups, and sewing kits.
 - Gift cards from grocery or box stores such as Dollar Tree, Staples, K-Mart, Wal-Mart, or Target.
- May 11: Help St. Bart's youth make a difference. Purchase a Heifer International animal.
- July/August: Back to School Packs
- Thanksgiving Eve and Thanksgiving Day: Serve food to the homeless



Adult Education Preview

Our Adult Education plans for late March, April and May continue to offer rewarding, challenging, and insightful opportunities to share our gifts and to grow in Christ's love. Please join us as we learn, discuss and share our views on *Sharing Your Faith without Losing Your Friends*, *Our Anglican Vision: Exploring Liturgy*, and *Gospel Parallels*.

Sharing Your Faith without Losing Your Friends

Wednesdays at 6:30 PM on April 16 through May 14

Many times in the past, whether at work among colleagues, at a cocktail party among friends, or even at a family get-together, a topic of conversation arose that made me think about a Sunday morning at St. Bart's and the wonderful music rising from our organ and choir, the stimulating sermons from our priests, or the inspiring Eucharistic prayers, and I was ready to invite these colleagues, family, and friends to join me at St. Bart's.

Then something made me hesitate. Is it appropriate to discuss religion in the workplace? Will my family want to hear about my experiences at St. Bart's? Will my friends see me as a pushy proselytizer?

How can I share my faith without losing my friends?

How, in other words, can I, on a personal level, play my part in fulfilling the core of St. Bart's mission: "...to *invite* the community to worship with us, to *share* our gifts and to grow in Christ's love."

Inviting others to share is a simple definition for evangelism, a word that unfortunately carries negative connotations for many of us. Perhaps that is why we hesitate.

But if our beloved St. Bart's is to grow and if we are to fulfill the Great Commission that Jesus gives us after Easter "to make disciples of all nations," then we must move past this hesitation and learn to share our faith with confidence.

On behalf of St. Bart's Adult Education, I invite you to join an exploration of this important topic during a five-week course each Wednesday evening from April 16 through May 14.

The course, *Sharing Your Faith without Losing Your Friends*, will include prayer, Bible study, personal introspection, and reflection. There will be home reading assignments from the Gospels, some memorization exercises, and, most importantly, practice sharing.

We will use course materials developed by the Rev. Canon B.W. Wait II, the canon for Evangelism for the Diocese of Florida, and the book *Good News People* by the Rev. Canon Harold Percy, rector of Trinity Anglican Church, Ontario. The text is not required for the course.

What is required is a mutual commitment to the full five weeks. Like our Lenten series, each evening will begin at 6:30 PM with a light supper of soup, salad, and bread (we start by sharing food), followed by a two-hour session intended to help the shy, the timid, and the tongue-tied develop skills and confidence in sharing our Christian faith with our un-churched friends.

Please RSVP so we know how many handouts to make. Sign the registration list on the St. Bart's bulletin board, email me at cats4cats@comcast.net, or contact the St. Bart's Office at 740-2101.

John Ambrose

Our Anglican Vision: Exploring Liturgy

Sundays at 9:30 on March 30, April 6, April 13, April 20, April 27, and May 4

Whether you are a cradle to grave Episcopalian, you visited and found a "home," or you came to us through life's circumstances, you probably feel a uniqueness within our way of worship. Our Prayer Book, along with a rector's discretion and possibly some innovations (e.g. our Spirits) guide us through our services and, for many, our daily prayers.

On Sunday March 30 at 9:30 AM, we begin to explore our liturgy and Anglican vision as it relates to our worship. Please join us as we learn, discuss, share views, and enjoy uplifting, "ah ha" moments.

March 30 Why Liturgy: Is Liturgy Artificial? We will compare services such as Lutheran, Methodist, Presbyterian, and Orthodox.

April 6 Liturgy: Work of the people or clergy discretion?

April 13 Recent Report of the Liturgical Commission of the General Convention—From 1928 to 1979 Prayer Books

April 20 Innovation and Renewal: Dance, folk music, and more

April 27 Do you Physically Have to Use a Prayer Book?

May 4 Where do You Think St. Bart's is Liturgically? Where should we go?

Come to all sessions, or come to those of your choice.

Gospel Parallels

Sundays at 9:30 on May 11, May 18, and May 25

Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John share the Good News of Christ in very divergent ways. Certainly, there are similarities, after all if one thinks of the Gospels as biographies, they all tell us about the life of Jesus. Yet, some stories are in one and not others; sometimes, they tell different aspects of the same story, and sometimes they tell stories in different (maybe even conflicting) ways.

For example, consider the story of Jesus' birth. Matthew gives us a historic genealogy, Luke gives us the beautiful and famous narrative, Mark does not even have the story, and it's a challenge to figure out how John fits in.

Join us at 9:30 AM on May 11, May 18, and May 25 as we compare and parallel stories as told by Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John.



Heifer International

*St. Bart's youth makes a difference.
Please help on Sunday, May 4.*



For five weeks, our Sunday School youth will take a step to end world hunger and poverty through Heifer International. The messages of Heifer International will tie in with specific Bible passages, helping children make real-world connections to their bible studies.

This organization helps families in third world countries become self-sufficient by providing the means to earn a living. It can be as simple as giving a flock of chickens to a family to provide food and eggs for income. The family receiving an animal gift from Heifer International passes on the offspring to other community members in need. The study will culminate with an outreach activity to work to provide an animal of the children's choosing to Heifer International.

On Sunday May 4, you can participate in this outreach event by purchasing a Heifer International animal. For each animal purchased, you receive a card. A Heifer International animal is a perfect Mother's Day gift for the woman who has everything!

Thank you for supporting St. Bart's youth!
Sarah Bay



Minutes of our Annual Meeting

February 10, 2008

Rev. Haywood Spangler called the annual meeting to order and opened with prayer.

Sixty-three of St. Bart's 125 active members (over 50%) were present to meet and surpass the requirement. *Note:* The Canons require a quorum of 10% of active adult parishioners be present for an annual church meeting.

Cheryl Emory distributed coloring books and crayons for children to enjoy during the meeting. Many thanks to CVS on Nuckols Road for donating the books and crayons.

Three candidates for three vestry positions included Betty White, Rick Jones, and Kevin Dyer. There was a motion to elect these three individuals by acclamation. The motion passed.

Betty White, Rick Jones, and Kevin Dyer came forward and were sworn in as Members of the vestry for 2008.

Retiring vestry members, Barbara George and Jill Wood, were de-commissioned as vestry members. The congregation joined Haywood with applause to thank Barbara and Jill for their three years of commitment and hard work.

Susan Ross, Parish Treasurer, presented the 2007 Budget Report and Asset Statement. The Budget Report currently shows a \$9506 deficit, due in large part to projected payments on the HVAC indebtedness.

Paul Newell, Sr. Warden, reviewed activities and successes of St. Bart's during 2007.

Suggestion from a Member: After signing up to donate altar flower funds, it is easy to forget. Perhaps we could send reminders.

Paul recognized and thanked all members who helped fulfill St. Bart's mission of evangelism, outreach, Christian formation, and worship during 2007. Members stood as Paul listed activities, and at the end, all members in the church were standing.

Paul Newell explained the costs to replace HVAC units that are not working and beyond repair. The costs include a 10-ton York unit for \$6,797, a 7 ½-ton Carrier unit for \$9,980, and two new air filter systems for \$681 each. These unexpected and necessary expenses were not included in the 2007 budget. The vestry has suggested that we establish an equity line of credit in order to incur a loan for the amount to cover the HVAC repairs. There was discussion regarding the repair and the loan.

Motion: Frank Wood moved to approve parish indebtedness to fund the HVAC system. The motion was seconded, and passed with a unanimous vote.

Paul informed the congregation that a few parishioners have offered to provide a personal, interest free loan to St. Bart's to pay off any loan for the HVAC. After discussion, Paul called for a show of hands either for or against accepting such a parishioner loan. Paul noted that this was not a binding vote, rather a way to find out what members think about the issue. A wide majority of hands were in favor of *not* accepting a loan from a parishioner.

Susan Ross reviewed the 2008 parish budget (attached to the church record copy) which currently shows a \$9,500 deficit. The deficit is due primarily to the projected payments on the HVAC indebtedness.

During a brief discussion, Robert Rappold recommended that we investigate less expensive telephone and internet possibilities such as Vonage.

Paul Newell explained that each vestry member has pledged an additional \$200 for the 2008 budget to help resolve the deficit. The vestry is inviting all members to join them, either by increasing 2008 pledges, or by making a one-time contribution to the Building Fund. If each pledging member gives an additional \$200, the budget will not only balance, there will be a surplus to put on the HVAC indebtedness principle. If 30 people make one-time gifts of \$500, we can pay off the entire HVAC principle.

Sarah Bay briefly discussed fundraising for 2008 and distributed a 2008 Fundraising Questionnaire to identify the level of anticipated support for current fundraising ideas and to elicit more ideas.

Haywood adjourned the meeting with prayer. After the recessional hymn, all were invited to stay for a potluck lunch.

Respectfully Submitted, Cheryl Emory, Register



Vestry Minute Summaries

See complete minutes on the bulletin board. Minute summaries below are submitted by Cheryl Emory, 2007 Vestry Register.

Summary of Minutes of the Vestry for January 18, 2008

Treasury Report for December 2007:

	Income	Expense	Income/Expense Variance
Month Actual	\$19,635	\$14,812	\$4,823
Month Budget	\$14,537	\$17,240	(\$2,703)
YTD Actual	\$168,270	\$168,418	(\$148)
YTD Budget	\$167,400	\$168,054	(\$654)
YTD Variance	\$870	\$364	\$506

HVAC: After discussion, John Ely moved that we contract with Air Pro to purchase and install a 10-ton York unit (\$6,797) and a 7 ½-ton Carrier unit (\$9,980) along with new air filter systems (2 for \$681 each). In addition, Lexie Ross will inquire about a service contract. Haywood is researching an equity line of credit to fund the HVAC work.

Fundraising: Sarah Bay distributed a list and explanation of potential fundraising activities.

Annual Meeting/Vestry Election: The St. Bart's annual meeting is scheduled for February 10 immediately after the 10:30 service. The vestry discussed the agenda and agreed to add a potluck luncheon.

The vestry agreed to have nine vestry members. Our membership needs to elect three new vestry members to replace two who are going off this year and one who went off earlier in the year due to a temporary move out of the country.

2008 Vestry Retreat: Planned for Feb. 16 from 9 AM to noon at St. Bart's.

Summary of Minutes of the Vestry for February 16, 2008

Note: The following is a draft. At this writing, the vestry has not yet approved minutes for the February 16 meeting.

Election of 2008 Vestry Officers: The vestry elected the following persons: Senior Warden: Cheryl Emory, Junior Warden: John Ely, Register: Sarah Bay. Vestry members thanked and congratulated Paul Newell, 2007 Sr. Warden, and Lexie Ross, 2007 Jr. Warden for a job well done.

Treasury Report: Due to needed corrections, the vestry tabled the January 2008 treasury report until our March meeting. Per Susan Ross, Treasurer, January expenses were under budget.

Jr. Warden Report—HVAC: Lexie Ross, 2007 Jr. Warden, reported that HVAC system costs included a 10-ton York unit for \$6,797, a 7 ½-ton Carrier unit for \$9,980, and an air filter system for \$681. A 10-year warranty is not available. A 5-year warranty will cost \$876 for the 10-ton York unit and \$800 for the 7 ½-ton Carrier unit. The total unit and warranty cost is \$19,138. We need a separate warranty statement with clarification to whether purchased warranties would begin immediately, or at the end of the warranty that is included in the equipment purchase price.

Note: The last electric bill was unusually high, perhaps due to emergency heat use. Lexie suggested that everyone remember to turn lights off.

Rector's Report: Haywood attended a marketing workshop which covered "Five Basic Steps of Church Marketing." Sixty percent of persons looking for information about a church access the internet. Our recently revamped web site seems appropriately targeted. One recommendation is to consider formatting it for ease of use on cell phones.

Francis Boynton will soon begin a new job and cannot continue volunteering in the church office. Betty White will help with tasks such as our weekly email to parishioners; however, there may be glitches.

Other: The vestry discussed recent parishioner feedback. Cheryl Emory, 2008 Sr. Warden, John Ely, 2008 Jr. Warden, and Haywood will offer to meet with the parishioner.

Equity Line: A motion passed to take out an equity line of credit to pay for HVAC repairs. Given information gathered to date, payments will slightly exceed \$4,000 for 2008.

A motion passed to earmark the 2008 Building Fund for HVAC repairs. Building Fund contributions will go first towards payments for the equity line of credit loan. If the Building Fund accumulates over \$4,000 within 2008, monies in excess of \$4,000 will go towards paying the principal.

Haywood and Cheryl Emory will write to the congregation explaining the HVAC costs, the equity line of credit and the loan payments, and the use of Building Fund monies.

Region XII Delegate: Barbara Ambrose has been our Region XII Delegate for three years. She wants to remain for one more year. A motion passed to elect Jill Wood as Region XII Delegate Alternate.

Letter of Support for Barbara Ambrose: The vestry agreed to sign a letter expressing willingness to support Barbara Ambrose spiritually and financially in her process for ordination as a permanent deacon. *Note:* Barbara already has much of the necessary training and does not plan to ask for financial report.

[Forward email](#)

 [SafeUnsubscribe®](#)

[Update Profile/Email Address](#) | Instant removal with [SafeUnsubscribe™](#) | [Privacy Policy](#).

St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church | 10627 Patterson Avenue | Richmond | VA | 23242

