

# Stone Church e-News



January 2018

## From the Rector's Desk

Dear St. Barnabas family,

This past year has gone very well and we have accomplished a number of things and have lots to celebrate! At a recent Vestry meeting we conducted a Mutual Ministry review led by the Rev. Thelma Smullin and in that meeting we determined a number of wonderful things happening at our church. Here is a list of some of things that were said:

### THINGS GOING WELL IN THE PARISH

- New parish house
- Live streaming the service
- 8 AM service growing
- Parish gatherings like breakfast
- Altar guild
- Financials in order
- New Sunday School teachers
- Revitalized/renovated church
- New kitchen on the way
- New organ
- People have been keeping up their pledges
- New signage
- Pickers and choir re-energized
- Comprehensive worship
- Core of a strategic plan
- Sermons on point

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- We stay traditional but also evolve
- Feedmore van has more volunteers

**THINGS GOING WELL WITH VESTRY**

- We problem solve well
- No conflict
- Good mix of people
- Things accomplished in meetings
- Honesty
- Structure with room for new business

**THINGS GOING WELL WITH MOTHER MEREDITH**

- she is willing to meet and it is confidential
- she has a lot of new ideas
- good leader
- Caring
- present at events
- organized
- Lots of energy
- on board and fully vested with St. Barnabas
- well done sermons and worship services
- follows the prayer book rubrics and canons of the church
- good listener
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Thank you to all those families and individuals that have made a commitment to St. Barnabas! You all have been incredibly generous in your support of this parish. Let's continue to do amazing things in 2018!

Yours in Christ,

*Mother Meredith+*

## WORSHIP

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### SOME UPDATES FROM SHARI HODGES, ALTAR GUILD CHAIR:

Linda Voyce and Barbara King joined this year. Ruth donated a new set of white hangings in memory of her parents. The church was decorated by the Altar Guild for Fall Harvest on November 5<sup>th</sup>. We and other members of the congregation took part in the Christmas Greening of the Church on December 17<sup>th</sup> which included fresh handmade wreaths, garland and swags donated by the congregation. We continue to faithfully care for the Altar and Sanctuary and we are grateful to be of service.

### USE OF ALTAR GUILD ITEMS

It has come to our attention that from time to time some of the items that the Altar Guild uses to set up, decorate and take care of the church with have turned up missing or have been moved to another location. We are happy to lend anything that we have, however some of the missing items have been needed and we have had to repurchase or go without them. Please contact Shari Hodges, [410-456-1311](tel:410-456-1311) or [shariremax@aol.com](mailto:shariremax@aol.com), if you would like to borrow something. Thank you.

### KUDOS

Many a heartfelt thank you goes out to the Altar Guild, all of the musicians, and the many readers, intercessors, chalcists, acolytes, counters, and planners that worked so hard to make our recent Advent and Christmas services so wonderful and the church so beautiful.



### INCLEMENT WEATHER POLICY



In the event of winter weather, please check your email before heading out to church or Sunday School. Mother Meredith will decide by 6:30 a.m. on Sunday mornings if weather and driving conditions warrant cancelling some or all of our Sunday morning services, Forums and Sunday School. She will notify the Wardens and send a list-serve email. If you do not have easy access to email, call our Junior Warden, Molly McEvoy, at either 410-549-3413 or 443-340-5711.

### VESTRY HIGHLIGHTS

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#### VESTRY MEETING HELD DECEMBER 11<sup>TH</sup>

The most recent meeting of the Vestry was held on Monday, December 11<sup>th</sup>, at 7:00 p.m. in Barnabas Hall. Minutes and Financial Statements are available at the office, if desired. The meeting included a Review of Norms, a discussion on snow removal and the temporary need for help with shoveling, and an update on meeting our pledge goal. The Vestry meets on the second Monday of each month in Barnabas Hall at 7:00 p.m. All Vestry meetings are open and all members and friends are welcome. The next meeting is scheduled for January 8<sup>th</sup>.

**CHURCH SUNDAY SCHOOL**

Sunday morning faith formation for children

From 9:00 to 9:45 in Barnabas Hall

Yes! We will be holding Church Sunday school in, at least, January and February of this new year. It will continue to meet on the first and third Sunday of each month. The specific dates are listed:

January dates 7<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup>

February dates are 4<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup>

Please bring your children to these studies and, if you are interested, contact Nancy Myers about volunteering to teach or assist.

**YOUTH GROUP**

The St. Barnabas Youth Group will also continue to meet in 2018 plus there is a fun Cook Off coming in February. More details to follow on that event soon! In the meantime, please note that the meeting dates for the Youth Group are January 7<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> while February has the cooking challenge on the 9<sup>th</sup> and a meeting on the 25<sup>th</sup> a. With the upcoming, fun events in February and March, there may be a need for some extra Youth Group meetings so be sure to check the weekly bulletin and the next E-Newsletter for updates.

**SAVE THE DATE REQUEST FROM YOUTH GROUP – FEBRUARY AND MARCH 2018**

The Youth Group has been coming up with some great Fundraising ideas! Current planning includes a Crock Pot Cook Off one day along with a Musical Show Case on another. The tentative dates are February 9<sup>th</sup> for the Cook Off and March 16<sup>th</sup> for the Show Case. Please save these dates!



**ADULT FORUM**

The next segment of study for the Adult Forum is set to begin on Sunday, January 7th. The Forum is held in Barnabas Hall from 9:00 a.m. - 9:45 a.m. All are welcome!

**FINANCE**

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The budget for 2018 has been prepared. Thank you to all that pledged and those that worked so hard on the budget. St. Barnabas could not exist without all of you and what you bring to the table with your time, talents, and donations.

Pledges were received in the amount of \$186,070 from 54 families at the time of publication.

### **MUSIC THAT MAKES COMMUNITY – JANUARY 9TH**

The **Music that Makes Community** (MMC) Baltimore practice group will meet for the first time on Tuesday, January 9, from 7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m., at the Cathedral of the Incarnation. This is an opportunity for those who've attended MMC workshops to practice their song teaching skills and learn new paperless repertoire. While geared toward folks who've attended an MMC workshop, all are welcome to come sing. For more information, please contact coordinator Barbara Cates, [catesbf@gmail.com](mailto:catesbf@gmail.com).

### **ALL OUR CHILDREN TO HOST NATIONAL SYMPOSIUM –JANUARY 16<sup>TH</sup> TO 18<sup>TH</sup>**

This group is exploring the urgent opportunity the church has to help achieve equity and justice in public education. Many of their goals echo our diocesan Horizons 2015 goal to support better public education in Maryland. The event is January 16<sup>th</sup> -18<sup>th</sup>, 2018 at Trinity Cathedral in Columbia, SC. [More information here.](#)

### **PLANNED GIVING CONFERENCES IN JANUARY AND FEBRUARY**

The clergy Planned Giving conferences are coming up in January. Come and learn how to secure resources for the future of your church through endowment funds, a Legacy Society, and estate planning. Conferences are from 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 Noon, January 11<sup>th</sup> at the Diocesan center (call-in available); January 25<sup>th</sup> at St. Mark's, Lappans; and February 8<sup>th</sup> at St. Luke's, Annapolis. More information or to RSVP, contact the Rev. Charles Cloughen at [443-388-3768](tel:443-388-3768) or [ccloughen@episcopalmaryland.org](mailto:ccloughen@episcopalmaryland.org).

### **WINTER RETREATS AT THE CLAGGETT CENTER**

Registration now open for these annual offerings for women and men. Make a resolution you can keep to start the New Year off with reflection, nurturing and self-care.

Women's Retreat: From Strength to Strength: Spiritual Resilience, January 12-14.

The Rev. Adrien Dawson, rector of All Saints' Parish, Frederick, will be the spiritual leader for the weekend.

[Learn more and register.](#)

Weekend for Women: Free & Clear, January 19-21.

"Where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. And all of us...are being transformed" (2 Cor. 3:17-18). Keynote speaker: The Rev. Dina van Klaveren, rector of St. Andrew's

[Learn more and register.](#)

Men's Retreat: Sharing the Light of Christ, February 2 - 4.

"Opportunities from Abundance", Keynote speaker: The Rt. Rev. Robert W. Ihloff, retired Bishop of Maryland.

[Learn more and register.](#)



**HOLY LAND “CHRISTMAS” JANUARY 2-14, 2019.**

Join Bishop Sutton and long-time tour guide, Iyad Qumri, on a pilgrimage to Galilee, Jerusalem, and Bethlehem for Orthodox Christmas on January 6. Pilgrims stay at St. George's Cathedral in Jerusalem and a guest house in Nazareth's old city. (Ability to navigate cobblestones and steps is a must!). [Learn more here](#). Contact the Rev. Anne Weatherholt, [rector@stmarkslappans.org](mailto:rector@stmarkslappans.org).



## **RUTH GOSNELL EDUCATION FUND**

Springfield Presbyterian Church  
7300 Spout Hill Road, Sykesville, MD 21784  
410-795-6152  
[www.springfield-church.org](http://www.springfield-church.org)

### **INTEREST-FREE COLLEGE LOANS AVAILABLE**

**Need an interest-free loan** for the 2018-19 academic year to complete your college Junior, Senior or Graduate School studies? The Ruth Gosnell Education Fund, directed by the Springfield Presbyterian Church, provides interest-free loans for those full-time student categories. Regardless of religion, all applicants will receive impartial consideration; and repayment of the loan does not start until 6 months after graduation. Loan applications will be evaluated on academic performance, financial need, and a short essay. Download the RGEF Form A, “Ruth Gosnell Education Fund Loan Application” at [www.springfield-church.org](http://www.springfield-church.org), or call SPC at [410-795-6152](tel:410-795-6152).

**Completed applications must be received by March 1, 2018.**

E-mailed applications are acceptable to [spc.office@verizon.net](mailto:spc.office@verizon.net)

### **SPIN THE NEW YEAR ON MAIN STREET! - JANUARY 5<sup>TH</sup>**

The First Friday fun, sponsored by the Downtown Sykesville Merchants, continues on January 5<sup>th</sup> beginning at 6:00 p.m. Check in at the First Friday Tent and spin the Main Street Roulette Wheel to win up to 30% off all purchases in participating stores!

### **AUTHOR EVENT AT A LIKELY BOOKSTORE –JANUARY 11<sup>TH</sup>**

Sarah Pekkanen returns to A Likely Story with a new and different twist. She has co-authored a psychological thriller with Greer Hendricks! Meet the co-authors of “The Wife Between Us” on Thursday, January 11<sup>th</sup>, at 7:00 p.m. Greer Hendricks and Sarah Pekkanen will be discussing their new gripping psychological thriller. “The Wife Between Us” is packed with surprising twists and turns that has the quality and substance of Gone Girl and Girl on a Train. Join us for a wonderful evening with two great authors. This is a free event, but please RSVP to the bookstore.

### **WOMEN’S SELF DEFENSE SEMINAR –JANUARY 12<sup>TH</sup>**

All women are invited to join Tristar Martial Arts in Eldersburg for a FREE Self Defense class on Friday, January 12<sup>th</sup>, 2018. Learn practical self-defense techniques in a safe, friendly environment. The goal is empowering women, strengthening the community. The seminar runs 7:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at the Tristar facility located at 1840 Liberty Road in Eldersburg, Maryland.

## ST. BARNABAS PRAYER LIST

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### JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

Maggie Alspach	Daisy Ewell	Maureen Grauel	Dave Hamilton
Stephanie Keenan	Nathaniel Mercer	Amanda Wendal	George Wendal

### JANUARY ANNIVERSARIES

David & Donna Denison  
John Pacak & Damaris Santiago  
Jim & Cecie Peay  
Any & Ruth Schwalier

### PRAYERS FOR THE SICK

Tammy Andrews	Roy Bozarth	Ashly De'May	Alice Dempsey
Linda Dore	Bill Dixon	Patti Emery	Michael Grant
Pat Hand	Daniel Kalmus	Carol Ketler	Sheldon Lentz
Bob Lochran	Sue Lye	Don May	Fred Mengers
Viviana Mira	Nancy Myers	Dave Patterson	Doris Romas
Austin Smith	Ethan Taylor	Gregory Victor	Brian Voyce
Amanda Wendal			

### PRAYERS FOR THE DECEASED

(None to list at time of publication)

### PRAYERS FOR THOSE SERVING IN THE ARMED FORCES

Grant Demaree	Ryan Lochran	John Miller	Sarah Zimmerman
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