



St. Bartholomew's Anglican Church

Our Vision: *Transforming lives through a personal relationship with the Lord Jesus Christ.*

Our Mission: *To share Christ's love and His Word with our community and the world through Christ-centered outreach, worship, prayer, and biblical study.*

VOLUME 61, NUMBER 12

The Chatter

DECEMBER 2018

MUCH TO CELEBRATE, BUT FIRST...

Now that the Advent Season is upon us we are all getting ready for the Christmas holiday rush. But Advent is supposed to be a season of getting ready for the coming of Christ *with repentance, prayer, and fasting!* Only then can we *truly* experience the joy and peace Christ brings to our lives at Christmas. And yet, how differently our world sees things. Instead of spiritual preparation, the world is concerned about material preparation. Instead of focusing on the Christ child, our world focuses on itself. Instead of pointing people to Jesus, the world points us to "Seasons Greetings!"

The good news is that each of us can make a difference this Advent Season by celebrating it God's way. We can take time to pray with our loved ones around an Advent wreath. We can get into God's Word. We can take time out to rest! And we can point others to Jesus Christ through our words, our cards (please don't send generic and bland Christmas cards but send ones that highlight Christ!), and generous actions. Don't give in to the tyranny of this world but rather listen to the promptings of the Holy Spirit, and then you will be able to experience and prepare for the real meaning of the season. So, how will you celebrate Advent this year?

(Continued on page 2)

St. Bart's Web Information

www.stbartston.org

Also see our [Facebook](#) page for more!



St. Bartholomew's
Anglican Church
2368 Eggert Road
Tonawanda, NY 14150
Phone: (716) 831-1777

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On a similar note, there is another big event coming! **This month marks our tenth year anniversary of moving to our new location.** It is hard to believe but ten years ago on **December 21, 2008**, marked our first services at 2368 Eggert Road! On that day, we had three services and with over 520 people in attendance all in the middle of a snow-storm! God has and continues to bless us. So many of you made the move possible. We want to celebrate our ten years together in a new place and in the Anglican Church of North America with a service on **Epiphany Sunday, January 6 at 10 AM.** **A catered lunch will follow at Noon.** **Our Bishop, the Rt. Rev. Bill Atwood, and his wife Susan plan on joining us, too.** **We will also have an event to be determined on Saturday January 5.** Please make plans to join us that weekend.

I also want to add that **January 1st will mark 20 years as your Rector.** I have been truly blessed to be able to be a part of the ministry of St. Bartholomew's the last 23 years since first arriving in August of 1995 as the new curate. I look forward to many more years together in serving our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. In the meantime, as the Apostle Paul reminds us in **Philippians 3:14**, may we all continue to ***"press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus."***

In Christ's service,
Fr. Ward



ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S CHURCH

The Very Rev. Fr. Arthur W. Ward, Jr.

The Rev. Fr. Andrew J. Thebeau

Dn. Jacob Bush, Dn. John Reitz, Dn. Gary Wisniewski

TOWN OF TONAWANDA, NY

Dean & Rector

Curate

4th Sunday of Advent- December 23, 2018 8 & 10am services only

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES December 24, 2018

4 PM FAMILY HOLY EUCHARIST (with incense)

There will be a special Sunday School Children's Program for Pre K through 4th grade *upstairs* in the resource room.

7 PM HOLY EUCHARIST (with incense)

A SACRED MUSIC RECITAL AT 10:30PM ON CHRISTMAS EVE

11 PM MIDNIGHT HOLY EUCHARIST (with incense)

CHRISTMAS DAY SERVICE (No choir or incense)

10am Tuesday, December 25, 2018

No Wednesday service, December 26, 2018.

TEN YEAR ANNIVERSARY SERVICE!!! Epiphany Sunday,

January 6, 10am. Catered Lunch at noon. All Welcome!

THE HOLY SEASON OF CHRISTMAS LASTS FOR 12 DAYS! - from December 25 - January 5, and is called the Twelve Days of Christmas. As the somber reflection and joyful expectation of the Advent Season ends, the members of Christ's Church are to break out with exuberant rejoicing and celebration in knowing that God has visited us in the Lord Jesus Christ! **Remember Christmas does not end on December 25, it only begins!**

THE ADVENT OFFERING ENVELOPE may be returned at any time during the Advent/Christmas season through any of the Christmas services, 12/24 - 12/30/18.

ARE ALL YOUR PLEDGE ENVELOPES FOR 2018 TURNED IN?

Each unused envelope is a loss of anticipated revenue pledged to God, which will have to be made up by someone else.

BUDGET FOR 2019. Please turn in your pledge card if you haven't already done so. Offering envelopes for 2019 will be mailed directly to the homes of all who turned in a pledge card. Thank you!

BISHOP SCAIFE GUILD COOKIE INGATHERING will be held on December 16. See Chatter for more details.

ADVENT MANGER SUNDAY is scheduled for December 9. Children are asked to bring an unwrapped gift for needy children in Western New York.

*****ADULT NEW MEMBER CLASSES***** will begin January 20th at 1pm on Sundays. Please see Fr. Ward if interested.

St. Bartholomew's Children's Ministry Presents...



**Sunday, December 16th at 4:30pm in Fr. Amend Hall
Advent Party with free dinner and activities to follow!**

VESTRY

Core Team ~ Will continue to oversee the Strategy Teams, including the newest “Bible Studies” team which is headed by Fr. Thebeau and Deacon Bush.



Church Elections ~ To be held on December 1-2, 2018. Four will be elected to the new board. Tony Luckoski, Jon Merrick, John Krull, John Hillestad, Linda Doran, and Mark Begovich are running. Our thanks goes to Warden, J. Thompson, L. Abramo, R. Derrett & J. Hyzy who are coming off the board.

Annual Budget ~ The Vestry approved the 2019 budget. You should be receiving your annual pledge letters in the mail. Although the rules regarding tax deductions for donations have changed, please remember to tithe your income.

Thanksgiving, Advent & Christmas Offerings ~ All donations will be given to *Buffalo City Mission, Sonrays Ministry, Fr. Kramer's Ministry & Saving Grace Ministries*. Please give generously as these Christian-based entities heavily rely on our donations.

St. Bart's 10th Anniversary ~ It's hard to believe 10 years have already passed! Our anniversary is on Dec. 23rd. Because it is only two days away from Christmas, we will be celebrating this milestone anniversary in early January 2019. Further details will be forthcoming.

Fr. Ward going to Dallas ~ Fr. Ward will be meeting with our Bishop and the other leaders from our diocese on January 2-4, 2019 for discussions and strategic planning for the future of our diocese.

Set Free Ministries with Pastor Al & Deb Warner ~ Pastor Warner will be visiting at all four services December 1-2, to share what God is doing in WNY!. Carl Calabrese is a good friend with Pastor Al and recommends this ministry that seeks to bring together the region's business, political and religious leaders to work together as a Christian witness to our community.

BISHOP SCAIFE GUILD



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SOUP SALE: Thanks to all those that bought the delicious soup at our sale last month. We will disclose the profit we made in the January Chatter.



CHRISTMAS SALE: Our Christmas Sale will be December 1 and 2 in the Large Fellowship room. Saturday hours will be 10:00 to 3:00 and after the 4:30 service, and on Sunday after all services. We will not have baked good this year.

COOKIE INGATHERING: Please bring cookies for our shut-in's by December 15 so their boxes can be made up early Sunday morning. If you bring them in earlier please label them so they won't be used for the Coffee Hours and put them in the kitchen. The boxes will be put on a table in the hallway across from the Gift Shop if you can deliver them to a shut-in.



BUNDLES FOR BABIES: Please mark the bags of new and gently used baby items for Cornerstone and leave them at the Gift Shop. They will be taken to Cornerstone.

THREADS OF HOPE: Please mark kitchen and linens for Threads of Hope and leave them in the Gift Shop.



DON'T FORGET TO DROP YOUR DASH'S RECEIPTS IN THE BAG ON THE GIFT SHOP!

REQUEST FROM THE COUNTERS: PLEASE put your envelope number on your checks!

PRAY for those in the MILITARY

Please keep those from our Parish Family who are serving our country in the Armed Forces in your prayers:

Katherine Boy-US Marines

Virginia Boy- US Navy

Jason Driscoll- US Army

James Kerins- US Army

A.J. Matteliano- US Army

Matthew Prohaska- US Air Force

Andrew Rebl- US Army

Michael Wassinger Jr. -US Army

Andrew Welkley- US Air Force

Please let the church office know if there is anyone that needs to be added to or deleted from this prayer list.



FOR YOUR INFORMATION



All material for the **JANUARY** Chatter should be submitted no later than **December 18**. Chatter deadline is **ALWAYS** the **3rd Tuesday of the month**. Thank you.

FOOD PANTRY

52 bags of food and personal products were donated in November. **Please try to remember collection is the first Sunday of each month**. Thank you for your continued support and generosity.



PRAYER FOR REVIVAL will meet Monday, December 17 at 7pm. Please join us as we pray for our church, our community, our nation and the world.



St. Bart's Prayer Chain

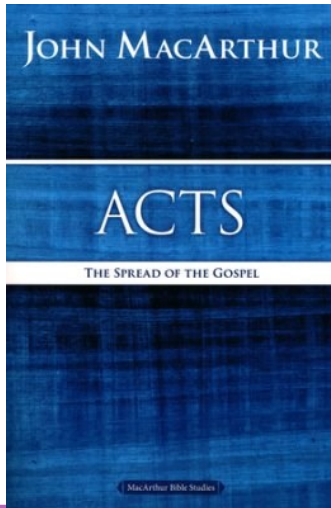
Our Prayer Warriors have been praying for your needs over 35 years. All prayer requests are kept strictly confidential. Your requests can be submitted by name or anonymously. Just fill out a prayer card and drop it in the White Chapel Prayer Box, call the main office or access our new request box on the church website. They come directly to me and prayers begin immediately. For further information please call me, Rosemary Styn, at 688-9277.



FOR YOUR INFORMATION



Women's Tuesday Night Bible Study



will be doing John MacArthur's study:

Acts - the spread of the Gospel.

Study books are \$5.00.

Next meeting is December 11 at 6:30-8:00 pm in the small fellowship hall.

Questions— call Louise Jones - 874-0526



The next meeting of the

Parkinson's Support Group

Will be **Tuesday, February 26 at 2pm.**

Here we are once again at this very special time of the year when we reflect on all the Blessings we have been given. As always St.Bart's Family has been a Blessing to so many who may who without our support may not come to know the Love of Christ. Through the hearts, hands and financial support of so many of you the following donations have been made and delivered to God's Children.

Hats-43, Scarves-11, Gloves-10 pairs,

Slippers-5 pairs, Blankets-107 and Hand made Children's outfits-36.



Our Angels are a little shy and many stay in the background, but some have consented to be visible this year, Denise Zich, Joann Bush and Rosemary Stein. Everyone is called in some area of service to work to further the work of our Heavenly Father.

May You and Your Loved ones have a Very Merry and Blessed Christmas.

Diane Heer, St Bart's Angels Coordinator

Generation Next News

December 2018

Events For grades 6th -12th

Wednesdays— from 6:30-8:30pm. A time of interactive Bible lessons and fun games.

December 16th—Christmas Program at 4:30pm with Dinner and Family Fun to follow

December 19th— Youth Christmas Party with pizza, games and other Christmas goodies!

Dec 26th and Jan 2nd—No Gen Next Youth Group—Christmas Break

January 9th—First Gen Next of the new Year.

January 23rd — Movie Night– God's Not Dead-A Light in the Darkness

Save the Date — Awaken youth event February 15-16th. Cost is \$45 per person. Money is due by January 16th.

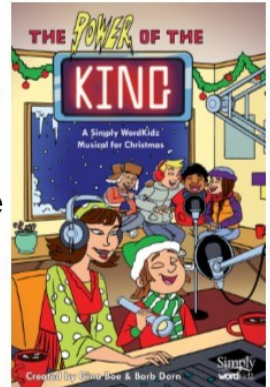
For more information contact:

Liz Burkett (Director of Christian Education)
Call or text me at —716-861-9911
Email - dce@stbartston.org

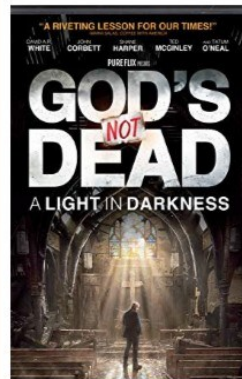
Hey there everyone! I wanted to thank all of you for your hard work putting together the Thanksgiving Baskets and helping with the YWCA Dinner Event. I heard wonderful comments about how helpful and friendly you all were and I just want to say way to go Generation Next youth and parents! I am very proud of all your great work!



The Christmas Program is on December 16 and I am asking any of our youth who are able to come out and support those who are involved in the Christmas Program this year. After the program we will be having dinner and family devotion with an ornament craft in the Large Fellowship Hall, so if you are available to help pass out craft supplies and or bring a dessert for the dinner that would be great.



In January we will be watching God's Not Dead-A light in the Darkness about how a Pastor responds to the unimaginable tragedy of having his church, located on the grounds of the local university, burned down. Please feel free to bring your family and friends to watch this great film. To watch the trailer for the film go to godsnottdead.pureflix.com



In February we will be going to a youth Event called Awaken. A new youth conference presented by Kingdom Bound! Featuring Reggie Dabbs, Wes Aarum, Hopper Worship Band, and more. This event is specially geared for teens to encounter the overwhelming love of Christ by awakening the soul, understand who He is by awakening the mind, know who He is & what His Word says by awakening the heart and celebrate who He is by awakening hope. More details coming soon for now go to awakencon.com for more information.



If you have any questions about these events please feel free to contact me.
In Christ, Liz

PRAYER CORNER

PRAYER AT THE RAIL

Join the Intercessory Prayer Team at the Communion Rail for a time of silent prayer as they pray for our Bishop, Dioceses, Clergy, Missionaries, Ministries and the Lost in Western New York.

Sunday – December 9– 10:40 – 10:55 a.m. at the Communion Rail in the Sanctuary

ADORATION / CONTEMPLATIVE PRAYER

A quite time to be with our Lord.

Wednesday – December 26- 6:00 p.m. – In the Sanctuary

INTERCESSORY PRAYER

Reading from the Book of Acts, a time to pray for the Mission and Vision of St. Bartholomew's.

Friday – December 28– 11:00 a.m. – In the Library

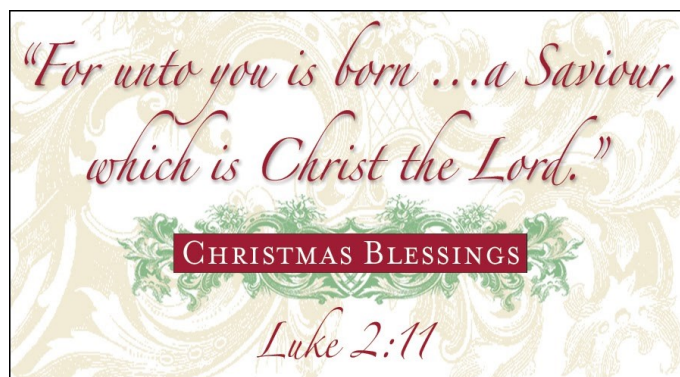
PARENTS IN PRAYER

Wednesday– December 5 and 19— 6:45pm in the Upper Prayer Room

FOR YOUR PERSONAL PRAYER NEEDS

Personal Prayer Intercessors are available during communion at various services in the back of the sanctuary. Check the Sunday bulletin for times.

HAVE A PRIVATE PRAYER REQUEST? Prayer request cards can be filled out & placed in the White Church Prayer Box on the Prayer Ministry Table.



December Birthdays

December 1 Marcia Brock, Khloe Kibby
December 2 Lucas Fish
December 4 Thomas Slayton, Carolee Waite
December 5 Richard Herrmann, Lindsay Tobin,
Carol Woeppel
December 6 Thomas MacLeay
December 8 Audrey Simmons, Kathleen Ward
December 9 Debra Allen, Marilynn Alliger
December 10 Dorothy Bamberg, Joan Brown,
Patrick Dake, Alexandra Zanni, Karen Zuefle
December 11 Russell Ballaro, Amanda Daniele,
Gail Schillinger, Susan Tobin
December 12 Lori Abramo, Robert Fish Jr.,
Catherine Hawthorn, John Hillestad II,
Jeremy Merrick
December 14 Joan Amend, Jim Hubbard,
James Kibby, Peter Passino
December 15 Louise Jones
December 16 Ronald Horvath, Patricia Schreier
December 17 Kathy George
December 18 Francis Ballaro, Jeremy Moyer,
Emily Small
December 19 Jean DiMaria
December 20 Joshua Merrick
December 21 Justin Dibble, Jennifer Marcinelli,
Caitlin Reed
December 24 Carol Krieger

**December 25 OUR LORD & SAVIOR,
JESUS CHRIST**

December 26 Ann Miller
December 27 Janina Heacock, Kristie Kibby,
Margaret Wahl
December 28 Alexia Salviski, Sarah Scibetta,
Madeline Wahl
December 29 David Buckley, Molly Delisanti,
Sarah Delisanti, Nicholas Jones
December 30 Anne Karam, Diane Lobdell
December 31 Lisa Boyle, Julie Ciccarelli,
Marietta Lipomi, Edward Reichard



**January 1 Heather Craig, Aguil Dut, Lual Dut,
Robert Kyser, Deborah Ryan**

January 2 Joseph Calamita

January 3 Paul Etienne, David Lapp

**January 4 Hadassah Bush, Grace Delisanti,
David Morrison**

January 5 Mary DeLuca

If you notice a mistake in the birthday list please call (831-1777) or email the secretaries: secretaries@stbartston.org

DECEMBER CALENDAR

December 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
2 8, 9:15 & 11am HE 9:15 & 11am Sunday School 9:30am Bible Study 1pm Pageant rehearsal 1:30pm Sudanese HE Vestry Elections after services Guild Christmas Sale after services	3	4 6:30pm Men's Discipleship 6:30pm Neighborhood Watch 7pm Vestry	5 9:30am HE 10:30am Women's Bible Study 6pm Jr. Choir 6:30pm Youth Group 6:45pm Missionettes Youth Group; Parents in Prayer 7pm Sr. Choir	6	7	1 10:30am Conf. class Guild Christmas Sale: 12-3pm & after service 4:30pm HE Vestry Elections after service
9 8, 9:15 & 11am HE 9:15 & 11am Sunday School Advent Manger Sunday 9:30am Bible Study 1pm Pageant Rehearsal 1:30pm Sudanese HE	10 7pm Persecuted Church	11 6:30pm Men's Discipleship & Women's Bible Study	12 9:30am HE 10:30am Women's Bible Study 6pm Cont. Choir 6:30pm Youth Group 7pm Sr. Choir	13	14	15 8:30am Men's Breakfast 10:30am Conf. Class 4:30pm HE Guild Cookie Ingathering
16 8, 9:15 & 11am HE 9:15 & 11am Sunday School 9:30am Bible Study 1:30pm Sudanese HE 4:30pm Christmas pageant	17 6:30pm BARRA 7pm Prayer for Revival	18 6:30pm Men's Discipleship	19 9:30am HE 10:30am Women's Bible Study 6pm Jr. Choir No Sr. Choir 6:30pm Youth Group 6:45pm Missionettes; Parents in Prayer	20	21	22 9am Allar Guild cleaning day NO Conf. class 4:30pm HE
23 8 & 10am HE	24 CHRISTMAS EVE 4pm Family HE 7pm HE 10:30pm Music Recital 11pm HE	25 CHRISTMAS DAY 10am HE	26 Office closed NO HE No Senior choir	27	28	29 No Conf. Class 4:30pm HE
30 8, 9:15 & 11am HE 1:30pm Sudanese HE	31 NEW YEAR'S EVE					

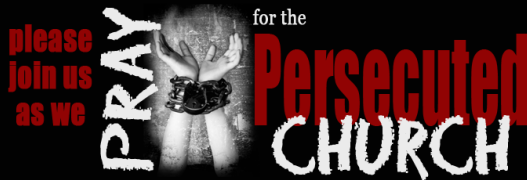
PERSECUTED CHURCH CALENDAR

Pray for Christians in the conflict areas of Sudan who boldly practice their faith despite ongoing attacks by the Sudanese government.

DECEMBER

SUNDAY MONDAY TUESDAY WEDNESDAY THURSDAY FRIDAY SATURDAY

2	LAOS Pray for the wisdom of evangelists who share the gospel in restricted areas.	3	UNITED ARAB EMIRATES Pray that members of royal families in the JAE will come to know Jesus as savior.	4	NEPAL Pray for pastors persecuted by Hindu radical groups.	5	CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC Pray for Christians displaced by ongoing warfare.	6	SYRIA Pray for church leaders and their families, who often endure separation to minister to others.	7	LAOS Pray for believers who are exiled from their villages because they refuse to renounce their faith.	8	PAKISTAN Pray that Christian converts will love their enemies and pray for their persecutors.	1	INDIA Pray that Christians will be able to forgive their persecutors, especially former friends and neighbors.
9	BAHRAIN Pray that Christian book stores in Bahrain will be effective tools in God's hand.	10	INDIA Pray for front-line workers in Uttar Pradesh state who are receiving bicycles and motorbikes.	11	YEMEN Pray for the missionaries in Yemen.	12	CHINA Pray that younger believers will develop the deep faith their elders gained through intense persecution.	13	TAJIKISTAN Pray for pastors who are tempted to leave the country because of constant harassment and threats.	14	TUNISIA Pray for the protection of new believers, leaders and missionaries.	15	QATAR Pray that the local church will be blessed with discipleship opportunities.	22	MALAYSIA Pray that Christians will be strong in faith and love as they face unjust treatment by Muslims.
16	BHUTAN Pray for Christians who are distributing tracts and New Testaments to unbelievers.	17	SUDAN Pray for the comfort of those who have lost family members in the ongoing bombings.	18	MYANMAR / BURMA Pray for the covert distribution of Bibles.	19	AZERBAIJAN Pray that church leaders will not be affected by the country's widespread corruption.	20	QATAR Pray that the true face of Islam will be revealed, opening hearts to Christ.	21	CHAD Pray for Christians facing Islamic extremism.	28	IRAQ Pray that Iraqi believers will stay in their country as witnesses for Christ rather than emigrating.	29	VIETNAM Pray that ethnic people groups without God's Word in their mother tongue will understand it in Vietnamese.
23	SAUDI ARABIA Pray that those reached through TV, radio and the internet will find Christian fellowship.	24	TANZANIA Pray that Christian communities in Tanzania will not respond with violence when persecuted.	25	LEBANON Pray for persecuted Christians who feel alone in their suffering.	26	NEPAL Pray for the distribution of Bibles on MP3 players.	27	COMOROS Pray for the encouragement of believers.	31		30			



Our next prayer meeting is Monday, December 10 at 7pm.

Christmas Church Signs

