

THE CHATTER
ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S CHURCH
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FOR OVER FIFTY YEARS
PROCLAIMING THE TRUTH AND LOVE OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, IN WORD AND IN DEED.

VOLUME 51 NUMBER 4 **EASTER** **APRIL 2008**

A NOTE OF THANKS!
WITH HEARTFELT THANKS!
 What a blessing you have been to my family! Your prayers and cards have been a great encouragement to my mom, Nancy. We truly appreciate all of your efforts. My mom is doing well, and we are thanking the Lord for His care - and expecting a full recovery with no more cancer.
 Kathleen and I would also like to thank you for all of your prayers and best wishes for Richard, her step-Dad. On behalf of the whole family, we thank you for your many blessings! Thank you!
Fr. Ward

walk MS
TEAM ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S WALKS AGAIN FOR MS!
 Come join the fun and make a difference in the fight against MS. Join Team St. Bartholomew's for the 2008 Walk MS on Saturday, May 3, at Dunn Tire Park. You may participate by walking, making a donation or both.
 For more details on how to register, please see Deacon John Reitz or Laura Zuefle.

CROWN SMALL GROUP STUDY
"Therefore if you have not been faithful in the use of worldly wealth, who will entrust the true riches to you?" Luke 16:11
 This small group study is a ten week in-depth study of what scripture teaches about being stewards of God's Time, Money, and Possessions. It is also about ways of becoming consistent savers, generous givers and prudent consumers.
 If you are interested in participating in the next small group or want more information, please contact Gary Wisniewski - 694-9154 or Susan Tobin - 877-2643. Watch "Parish Life" for dates and times and sign-up sheets.
 View online at www.crown.org and click on Small Group Studies.
"Everything you should know about handling money can be found in God's Word."

IT IS NEVER TOO SOON!
 Vacation Bible School is coming June 23 through June 27! Please mark your calendars. It will run each evening from 6:30 PM until 8:30 PM. Please see either Jim Kibby or David Curtis for more information.

THE FOOD PANTRY COLLECTION OCCURS ON THE FIRST SUNDAY OF THE MONTH!

43 bags of food and 2 cash donations were taken to the Food Pantry in March. Our church's food donations were quite low this month.

The Food Pantry is still very much in desperate need of some personal care items such as: bar soap, shampoo, toothpaste and toothbrushes, razors, toilet paper, feminine products and paper and plastic bags. They continue to need the usual food items such as boxed dinners, fruit, peanut butter, pasta, etc. They also express their gratitude to the people of St. Bart's for their generosity.

Please bring your items on the **FIRST SUNDAY OF THE MONTH** so that our "Food Pantry Delivery Angels" only have to make one trip.

"Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God Almighty, who was, and is, and is, to come."

Revelation 4:8



GENERATION NEXT IMPORTANT DATES

April 7: fun night senior and junior youth groups

Kingdom Bound will be August 3-7; the cost to go this year will again be \$180.00.

To make the cost easier for parents—a payment of \$45.00 will be due the fourth Sunday of April, May, June and July. If you have any questions please see Deacon Reitz.



prayer for the persecuted church

PPC CORNER -

Check our display board in the lobby and join us for prayer in the sanctuary the first Monday of each month.

This month, join us in prayer, at home, for **India**. Pray for the Indian believers who are under a brutal attack by Hindu extremists who are trying to forcibly "re-convert" them back to Hinduism. The

Christians are being kidnapped, deceived and brought to Hindu temples to participate in the ritual ceremonies to become Hindu. The Hindu extremists often have the authorities on their side and threaten the Believers with imprisonment and physical beatings. Their homes are invaded, family is threatened, Hindu altars are set up in their homes, they are forced to sign a form renouncing Christianity, stating they are now Hindu, and made to eat food sacrificed to Hindu gods. There are many news cameras on hand to report the "re-conversions" on TV. Please pray for the Believers strength to withstand this evil onslaught.

PRAISE REPORT: PASTOR ZAUR BALAEV FROM AZERBAIJAN (north of Iran) HAS BEEN RELEASED AFTER 10 MONTHS IN PRISON! THANK YOU JESUS!



WHY WAS THIS NIGHT DIFFERENT FROM ANY OTHER?

Maundy Thursday was quite a night at St. Bart's. One Hundred Fifty People of all

ages gathered for a Passover Seder and enjoyed a wonderful meal together—learning about the Seder and sharing traditional food of the feast. There are pictures on St. Bart's website of the Seder: go to www.stbartston.org and click on Maundy Thursday Seder.

A Big Thank You to all of the people who gave of themselves in planning and preparing for this special evening. **SHALOM Y' ALL!**

THE BISHOP SCAIFE GUILD

Our Soup Luncheon was a success even though we had to postpone it one week due to the weather. WE appreciated our soup chef, Jim Glownia, making the soup even though he was leaving the next day for Florida. We enjoyed the music of Nan Hoffman and Joe Tumino.

COMING EVENTS:

May 16—18 Annual Plant Sale

June 5—Annual Spring Banquet. We will be going to Banchetti's on North French Road. Details in the May CHATTER.

Please check the display case for gift items. Call Marilynn Alliger (877-8335) or Bonnie Fleischman (875-6402) to order. Donations are welcome.

Please continue to support the *Bundles for Babies* project that makes up bundles for the less fortunate in our communities. Baby items may be left in the basket under the table at the entrance. Diapers are especially needed. These items are taken to the Network of Religious Communities Office on Delaware where the bundles are made up. Thanks for all of the donations. They are greatly appreciated.

MARCH VESTRY MEETING

As of March 3, 196 pledges for \$130,588 have been received for 2008, compared to 228 pledges for \$313,627 on March 12, 2007.

With the absence of the Rector, Deacons Ed and John, as they go to Israel from March 26 to April 4, Fr. Commins will be in charge. Fr. Molison will also be in Israel from March 31 to April 13.

The April Vestry meeting will be on April 8.

NOTE: The Easter/Lenten offerings have been designated to *Freedom Village, Saving Grace Ministries, Kairos Prison Ministries, and Family & Children Services of Niagara County.*

ADDITIONAL NEWS:

A request was received from the Buffalo City Mission a few months ago for a quilt square from St. Bartholomew's for their quilt. Our talented quilter, Marcia Brock made one and sent it to them. The Buffalo City Mission Quilt Committee is planning a special event this spring when the quilt project is finally finished. We'll keep you posted as to when this event will occur.



MAY GRACE AND PEACE
BE YOURS IN ABUNDANCE.

2 PETER 1:2, NRSV



St. Bart's SUNDAY SCHOOL

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS:

Easter was quite a whirlwind time for Sunday school. It began with our "Kids Lenten Series" for 6 Friday nights during Lent. Look for a picture in the Sunday School Sketch of our "Armor of God" pieces. The children really enjoyed this particular series. Thank you to those children who came and special thanks to Amanda Runge for her invaluable assistance each week.

The next event was our "Easter Joy on Holy Saturday." We made beautiful new Easter Gardens, special Easter cards for the Veterans at the VA Hospital, and we also put together the beautiful Cross filled with flowers and prayer requests you saw in the Lobby on Easter Sunday morning. Our Easter morning 9:15 service was filled with over 40 children having an Easter egg hunt as they answered questions about Jesus life. They also made special Easter cards and had a delicious snack of Rice Krispie treats and juice. Many thanks to ALL who helped in both events (adults and teens) and to Marie Crosby and Michelle McCarthy for making the RK treat for both events. If you missed attending any of these events, plan ahead for next year!

The next big Sunday school event is the "Annual Teacher Luncheon" on Sunday, April 20. Our dedicated Sunday school teachers are honored and thanked that day with a special luncheon. Are you especially grateful for a particular teacher and the impact they made on your child's life as their Sunday school teacher? Perhaps you are thankful for your child being able to be in such a faith-filled Sunday school experience at St. Bart's. **Notes of thanks and encouragements would be especially welcomed for this event.** Please mail them to Marilyn Commins or email them to mjq7@frontiernet.net BEFORE April 10th.



ON YOUR MARK, GET SET—GO!

Mark your calendars for this years hottest Summer event—Rock, Rods, and Relationships - 2008! St. Bart's will be "rockin" on Saturday, July 19 from 2 PM to 8PM. More details coming soon!