

THE CHATTER
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*Mothers Day, Pentecost, Trinity Sunday,
 Memorial Day*

FOR OVER FIFTY YEARS
PROCLAIMING THE TRUTH AND LOVE OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, IN WORD AND IN DEED.

VOLUME 51 NUMBER 5

PENTECOST


MAY 2008



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.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

This years program is called **Power Lab "Discovering Jesus' Miraculous Power."** VBS will be held June 23 through June 27 here at St. Bart's.

Please come and join us for two meetings May 4 and May 18, after the 9:15 AM service.

If you would like to volunteer or have questions about Power Lab - please see Jim Kibby or David Curtis.

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."



St. Bart's Annual Picnic

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Join the St. Bart's Parish Family for the Annual Church Picnic on Sunday July 27, following the 10 AM Service at the Ellicott Creek Park Casino.

All you have to bring is a covered dish to share, salad or dessert — the church will do the rest!

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

49 bags of food were taken to the Food Pantry in April.

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, but have **expressed a need for pasta and sauce**. They send their gratitude to the people of St. Bart's for all of 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.



MISSIONETTE NEWS

Missionettes is finishing up their units before summer break.



The Prims (1st-3rd grade) are working on their plants and flowers badge and the Stars (4Th-6Th grade) are learning about prayer. In May we will be meeting on the May 7 and May 21 at 6:45pm. If you are interested in signing up your daughter for Missionettes please contact Kathleen Ward @ 623-0507 or Caroline Rudin @ 875-6462. The girls not only have fun learning about Godly principles, but they play games, make crafts, and enjoy snacks together.



GENERATION NEXT IMPORTANT DATES

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. See Deacon Reitz for more details.

Meeting Schedule (REVISED AND UPDATED)

- Sat. May 3 — MS Walk**
- Mon. May 5 - Fun Night 7-9 PM**
- Mon May 12 - Senior Meeting 7-9 PM**
- Wed May 14 - Junior Meeting 7-8:30 PM**
- Mon May 19 - Senior Meeting 7-9 PM**
- Mon May 26 - Memorial Day NO Meeting**
- Wed May 28 - Junior Meeting 7-8:30 PM**



prayer
for the
**persecuted
church**

PPC CORNER - "Prayer for the Persecuted Church"

—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 **China**. Many of these persecution countries are politically complicated and China is no exception. Below is an excerpt from Open Doors USA. Please read carefully and pray hard for them especially with the upcoming Summer Olympics. Oddly, the persecution is stronger because of the upcoming Olympics.

[As China deals with the fallout of protests in Tibet and alleged protests in neighboring Xinjiang province, the family of a Uyghur Christian fears he may be sentenced to death this month after officials accused him of endangering national security.

Officials closed Alimjan Yimit's business last September and accused him of using it as a cover for "preaching Christianity among people of Uyghur ethnicity." When they detained him on January 12, they told his family only that the arrest was a matter of "national security." Friends said a verdict is expected by the end of April.

The arrest followed that of another Uyghur Christian, Osman Imin, on November 19, 2007. Authorities placed Osman in criminal detention and accused him of assisting foreigners in illegal religious activities and revealing state secrets, according to CAA.

Police previously arrested and detained Osman in 2004, torturing him severely during interrogation, local sources told Compass.

During his initial detention, "Osman was chained to a metal bed in winter, without adequate clothing, and beaten repeatedly while interrogated," a source who spoke on condition of anonymity told Compass. "They also tied his hands behind him and lifted him off the ground."

Words like this are hard for us to read, but it is even harder for these strong believers to endure. They have not done what they are being accused of; they are being persecuted for the sake of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. The best thing that we, as their brothers and sisters in Christ, can do is to PRAY for them and PRAY for their persecutors. Jesus said in Matthew 5:44, "But I say to you, Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you." Remember that Jesus said, "For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I in the midst of them." (Matthew 18:20) So, let's gather together in prayer for the persecuted in China this month.

THE BISHOP SCAIFE GUILD

The Annual Plant Sale is May 16-18. If you forgot to order your flowers we will have lots of extras available. This is our big money making event for the year and we need help. There will be a *Help Needed* form in the Sunday Bulletin preceding the sale. We especially need help on Thursday, May 15 at 7:00 AM to help unload the flowers and at 9:00 AM to make up the plant orders. You may help for a just a couple of hours or longer if possible. We will even have coffee and donuts/rolls.

Our Annual Spring Banquet will be on Thursday, June 5 at Banchetti's on North French Road. There will be a sign up sheet starting May 18 on the table in the Church Entrance. Dinner choices will be Swordfish (\$23); Stuffed Pork chop (\$20); and Prime Rib (\$24). The meal included a fruit cup, salad, potato, ice cream, and coffee/tea. A Cash bar will be open at 6:00 PM, dinner at 6:30 PM, and our entertainment (the Ambassadors from the Amherst Glee Club) will start at 7:45 PM.

Please check the display case for gift items. Call Marilyn 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.

APRIL VESTRY MEETING

The Church Picnic will be on Sunday, July 27 at Ellicott Creek Park.

Rock, Rods, and Relationships will be on Saturday, July 19.

The Easter/Lenten offerings have been designated to *Freedom Village, Saving Grace Ministries, Kairos Prison Ministries, and Family & Children Services of Niagara County* and will be sent at the end of the month because offerings for Easter are still being received.



Therefore put on the
full armor of God ...

EPHESIANS 6:13, NIV



St. Bart's SUNDAY SCHOOL

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS:

WOW! Our Sunday school year is winding down, but we are gearing up for the last couple of exciting events for this year.

PENTECOST SUNDAY is May 11. There will be special things going on in Sunday school and we ask that everyone wear RED that day to represent the fire of the Holy Spirit.

EOY (End of Year) Kids Party will be Friday evening, June 6, from 5:00 pm – 9:00 pm.

We will have outdoor games, grill hot dogs, and then come inside for a movie. Last year it was a huge success in spite of the rain that came. This year will be even better with some new surprises; please pray for beautiful weather for that day. Look for a sign up sheet in the lobby at the end of May as we will need to have enough food for all. Parents are welcome to stay and enjoy the festivities also.

The last day of Sunday school classes will be June 8. Please plan to attend as your child may be receiving attendance awards and Bible awards. The teachers also plan special things with their classes for the last day. You don't want your children to miss it.

Summer Sunday school will begin on June 15 when the summer worship schedule begins.

**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.** Plan to bring friends and share in this remarkable healing ministry. Many more details will be coming soon!