



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 67 NUMBER 4

The Chatter

APRIL 2024

A BLESSED EASTER SEASON IS UPON US ONCE AGAIN!

If Lent reminds us to refocus on Christ and repent of those things that keep us from the love and peace of God, it is Easter that brings us the joy of knowing that we can be free from all that is wrong in this world. Easter is a season of joy for it celebrates God's eternal victory over sin, death, and the devil! If Christ's death confronts us with the reality of evil and sin, it is His resurrection that proves that He indeed is the Son of God and, as God in the flesh, has total authority and power over evil and death. The resurrection is God's guarantee to the world that He has the final word over all things and that His truth and love will prevail no matter what. It is now our choice whether or not we will put our faith in His truth and love and walk in the power of His Spirit and Word. When we do so, God tells us that His joy will fill our hearts. Thus, true joy is a direct consequence of following Jesus! (**c.f. John 15:11; Gal. 5:22; 1 Pet. 1:3-9**).

It is why St. Bartholomew's vision is to see *"lives transformed through a personal relationship with the Lord Jesus Christ."* True spiritual transformation and therefore, joy, can only come by growing in that relationship. The principle way of growth comes through what Bible calls discipleship. Jesus famously said in **Lk. 9:23**, ***"if anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me,"*** A disciple is literally someone who follows (imitates) his or her teacher in a disciplined manner. It is why Jesus accepted the title of "rabbi" - the Jewish word for spiritual teacher.

The challenge for any church is to cultivate a spirit of discipleship behind all that is done in Christ's name. This means encouraging and equipping members in their walks with the Lord through the ministries of the church. Whether it be through preaching and teaching, small group Bible Studies, special events, or opportunities for outreach, all should be done with the goal of promoting and strengthening the life of discipleship.

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St. Bart's Web Information

www.stbartston.org

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



St. Bartholomew's
Anglican Church

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With the help of our new *Discipleship Ministry Team* (Fr. Molison, John Hillestad, Donna Daniele, and Jim Thompson) we will be working on expanding our discipleship mindset in the coming months. **Our first event will be to welcome back Don Sunshine, a nationally known evangelist**, who teaches how we can let the light of Christ shine in us; whether in our families, with our neighbors and friends, in the workplace, at school or in other public settings. He gives practical insight on ways to reach others for Christ.

He will be our guest speaker on Sunday April 21 at the 8 & 10 AM services. After the 10 AM service he'll continue with a more detailed follow-up presentation from 11:45 AM until 1:45 PM. Lunch will be provided for those who sign-up. I hope you will be able to come. Please feel free to invite family and friends who might be interested. **A sign-up sheet will be in the Fr. Amend Hall for those attending. Please sign-up as soon as possible** so we can plan for the lunch. Otherwise, I hope to see you throughout Easter Season as we celebrate the joy and power of the resurrection!

Yours in Christ,
Fr. Ward



Sunday, April 21st after the 10am Service

VESTRY



March 2024

It was agreed that the **Lenten and Easter Offerings** will support **CRU** (the Naggy's ministry), **Love for the Least** (the Kramer's ministry), **Diocese of Awiel** (Bishop Abraham's project for school) and **Bishop's Well Fund** of Ekklesia (Bishop Atwood's ministry). Please give generously to help support these ministries.

You may have noticed the new signs over the Main and Office entrances. In error the background color is orange. When the weather is warm enough, the color will be corrected to burgundy.

Don't forget to turn in your pledge cards, if you haven't already.

**DEADLINE FOR THE MAY CHATTER is
Tuesday, April 16. Thank you.**

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Please keep those from our Parish Family who are serving our country in the Military in your prayers. Please let the church office know if there is anyone that should be added to or removed from this prayer list.

Virginia Boy– Navy

James Kerins– Army

Sean MacLeay-Navy

Matthew Miller– Army

Matthew Prohaska– Air Force

Andrew Rebl– Army



FOOD PANTRY: Remember that we collect for the Food Pantry the **first week-end of every month**. They are so appreciative of our donations. They can use personal care items, paper products and soap, etc. in addition to food items.

ONLY 23 bags and boxes and some monetary donations were taken to the Food Pantry in March. Our giving is still down. ***Please try to remember that the need never goes away, and be as generous as you can! Thank you.***



Prayer Night

Thursday, April 18 at 7pm



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BIBLE STUDIES

TUESDAY NIGHT LADIES

BIBLE STUDY

We meet from 6:30-8:00pm every other Tuesday, in the large fellowship hall. We are currently studying the book of JOHN, supplementing it with a video called "The Gospel of John." We would love to welcome you to our meetings!

Contact Louise Jones for more information.



Men's Discipleship Bible Study

meets every Tuesday evening at 6:30pm. We are currently STUDYING THE BOOK OF Revelation, using a video series hosted by Mark Correll.

All men are welcome to join us.



WE NEED YOUR TALENT!
CALLING ALL PARISHIONERS WHO
KNOW HOW TO...
TIE DYE T-SHIRTS AND/OR CREATE
(SEW?) ANIMAL, BIRD OR INSECT
HEAD GEAR FOR OUR YOUTH
MUSICAL. PLEASE SEE LIZ BURKETT
OR MARGARET BUKKOSY FOR MORE INFORMATION.
MATERIALS WILL BE SUPPLIED AND/OR
REIMBURSED.

Our church needs your talent, your positive perspectives, your voice, your service. As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace. 1 Peter 4:10 We all need encouragement to try something new. There are many opportunities for ministry and discipleship that may seem daunting, but in fact are not. Making music in worship is but one avenue.

Our April music schedule is below. Prayerfully consider singing in one of our groups. We would like to add at least one soprano and two alto voices to the adult choir. Men are also welcome, as are children and youth. We have a place for everyone who lovingly wants to glorify God through music.

APRIL CHOIR REHEARSAL AND SINGING SCHEDULE

April 3 Wednesday 7 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.	Adult Choir rehearsal in the choir room.
April 7 Sunday, 10:00 a.m. service	Adult Choir sings 9:15 a.m. warm-up
April 7 Sunday, after the service	Cherub Choir meets in the small fellowship hall Children's Choir meets in the choir room
April 10 Wednesday at 7:00	Adult Choir rehearsal in the choir room.
April 14 Sunday, 10:00 a.m. service	Adult Choir sings 9:15 a.m. warm-up
April 14, Sunday, after the service -	Combined Cherub and Children's Choirs - choir room
April 15 Monday	High School Singers rehearse in sanctuary 6 to 7 p.m. (8 th grade up)
Week of April 15 - 20	Times to be arranged for rehearsal with soloists
April 21 Sunday, 10:00 a.m. service	Warren Teall, soloist and High School Singers
April 21 Sunday, after the service -	Combined Cherub and Children's Choirs - choir room
April 24 Wednesday -	Contemporary Singers meet at 6 p.m. in the choir room Instrumentalists meet at 6:30 in the sanctuary
April 28, Sunday, 10:00 a.m.	Contemporary Singers and Instrumentalists participate Combined Cherub and Children's Choirs sing for worship and rehearse - choir room.

NOTE: April 7 is the last opportunity for children to join a choir and be a part of the musical to be presented on June 16 at the 10:00 a.m. Youth Service.

WE NEED YOUR TALENT!

CALLING ALL PARISHIONERS WHO KNOW HOW TO...

TIE DYE T-SHIRTS AND/OR CREATE (SEW?) ANIMAL, BIRD OR INSECT HEAD GEAR FOR OUR YOUTH MUSICAL. PLEASE SEE LIZ BURKETT OR ME FOR MORE INFORMATION. MATERIALS WILL BE SUPPLIED AND/OR REIMBURSED.



Next Steps

A Generation Next Newsletter

April 2024

Four truths and no lie



Some things are difficult to understand – like chemistry, verb conjugations, the blockchain, or why your friend is mad at you. To work through these “hard” subjects, we generally seek an explanation from someone “in the know,” someone with knowledge and authority in the subject. This is why we turn to Jesus when it comes to questions about God and His kingdom. When Jesus was here on earth, he spent a lot of time explaining complicated ideas about God through simple stories called parables. In this four-week series from the Gospels, we’ll explore four of the parables of Jesus and how they help us understand that God’s Word is a firm foundation, that everyone is invited to belong to God’s kingdom, that God’s Word welcomes a response, and that God’s kingdom is always growing.

Next Happenings

Wednesdays, 6:00 - 8:00 pm

Join us for our regular meetings filled with engaging lessons and activities
Dinner provided

Save the date: April 20th

9:00 am Wilson St. Urban Farm

No Meeting April 24th

Due to Youth Leadership Meeting

Wednesday, May 15h

6:00 pm Pancake Breakfast and Youth Sunday meeting

Save the date: May 17th

5:45 pm Lasertron

Save the date: May 29th

6:30 pm VBS Volunteer Meeting

*“He has brought me
to his banquet hall,
And his banner over
me is love.”*

Song of Solomon 2:4 NASB

A Letter From our Director



Liz Burkett

In Deuteronomy 31:7-8 we get a sneak peek into the lives of Moses and Joshua. Moses led the Israelites for 40 years in the wilderness and are finally about to enter the Promised Land. However, it is now time for Joshua to lead, and he is nervous about taking over Moses' position. Moses recognizes this and encourages Joshua, saying, "Don't fear, God is with you and will never leave you." I imagine this was comforting for Joshua and I wonder how knowing a verse like this could comfort us when we're faced with a great challenge. Much like Joshua, we turn to someone we know, maybe someone older who has been in our shoes and can offer us assistance through their knowledge and experience, and who has more knowledge and experience than God? This is why God's Word helps us when we're facing something difficult because His Word is full of wisdom and reminds us that He's always with us.

This month I challenge you to commit to learning one verse that can help comfort you when you are going through something difficult. An idea could be to write the verse down and on a sticky note and place it on your bathroom mirror so that you see it every morning as you get ready for the day.

*In Christ,
Liz*

Save the Dates: On April 20, 27, and May 4th (one being a rain date) we will be serving at the Wilson Street Urban Farm. We will meet at the farm at 9:00am to help with weeding, cleaning and prepping the farm for the planting season. Pickup will be at the farm at 3:00pm. You will need to pack a lunch. We encourage youth and their families to join us on one or both of the dates to experience what its like to work on a farm and hear from this wonderful Christian family about their mission in the Buffalo area. More detailed info to come as the event gets closer.



Save the Date! May 17th ! For this event, we will meet at the Lasertron event center on N Bailey Avenue at 5:45 p.m. Pickup will also be at Lasertron at 8:30 p.m. We will be playing Laser Tag twice with Pizza in the middle of the two games. The cost is \$25 per person.

The Breakfast will be on June 16th and will be held in Fr. Amend Hall following the 10am service. Proceeds will go towards Kingdom Bound. Families can buy tickets starting in May after services. On May 15th at 6pm we will have a Pancake Breakfast Meeting to go over the details of the event and to sign up for specific areas of working the event, such as kitchen help, food prep, waiters, ticket sellers, set up, clean up, and so on. We will also discuss Youth Sunday which is also happening on June 16th during the 10:00am service.



Save the Date - Wednesday, May 29th: VBS Volunteer Meeting at 6:30pm to discuss the details of Vacation Bible School (July 7-10th from 6-8 pm).The meeting is to help prepare all volunteers for their various roles at VBS.

April Birthdays

- 1 Carolyn Everett, Pamela Morrison
- 2 Aidyn McAndrews
- 3 Jennifer Gradzewicz, Jaquelyn Luckoski
- 4 Joan Bella, Katie Grace Hillestad,
Edward Woeppel
- 5 Debra Birchenough, Makayla Johnson
- 7 Danette Utz
- 9 Jean Dean, Elijah Williams
- 10 Samantha Fisher
- 11 Kenneth George, Diane Heer
- 12 Denise Brown
- 13 Renee Garrasi, Paul Karelus, Fran Teall,
Holly Thompson
- 14 Scott Giaquinto, Jeremy Kyser,
Aaron Machelor, Grant Teall
- 17 Connie Hoock
- 18 Kristopher Styn, Craig Heer
- 19 William Austin, Kevin Moyer,
Alyssa Ward
- 20 Arielle Derrett, Kyle Matesic
- 22 James McNamara
- 23 Thomas Prohaska, Valor Wandel

- 24 Zachary Passino
- 25 Amanda Merrick
- 26 Edith Manning, Diane Moyer,
Tammy Osmon, Carol Swist,
Isaiah Luckoski
- 27 Alan Heacock
- 29 David Gray



MAY

- 1 Susan Horvath, Sydney Lakeman,
Rachel Teall
- 3 Charles Abramo, Jack Gradzewicz
- 4 Kaity Hersee, Elizabeth Merrick
- 5 Joan Calamita, Rosemary Davis,
Valerie Ulrich

If you notice a mistake in the birthday list please call (716) 831-1777 or email the secretaries: secretaries@stbartston.org

April Calendar

APRIL 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2 6pm Crime Watch 6:30pm Men's Disc	3 9:30 am HE 6pm Youth Group 7pm Adult Choir	4	5	6 NO CONF. 4:30 pm HE
7 8 & 10 am HE 10am SS 11:45am New Member's Class, Cherub & Children's Choirs	8 FULL SOLAR ECLIPSE! 3:18- 3:22pm	9 6:30pm Men's Disc & Ladies Bible Study 7pm Vestry Mtg	10 9:30 am HE 10:30am Ladies Bible Study 12pm-Ballaro Memorial 6pm Youth Group 7pm Adult Choir	11	12	13 10:30am Conf. 4:30 pm HE
14 8 & 10 am HE 10am SS 11:45am New Member's Class, Cherub & Children's Choirs	15 6pm High School Singers 6:30pm Barra 6:45pm Corner- stone rehearsal	16 6:30pm Men's Disc	17 9:30 am HE 10:30am Ladies Bible Study 6pm Youth Group	18 7pm Prayer Night	19	20 10:30am Conf. 4:30 pm HE
21 8 & 10am HE 10am SS Don Sunshine-meeting & lunch to follow 10am service 11:45am Cherub & Chil- dren's Choirs	22	23 6:30pm Men's Disc & Ladies Bible Study	24 9:30 am HE 10:30am Ladies Bible Study 6pm Contemp. Singers 6:30pm Instrument.	25	26	27 10:30am Conf. 4:30 pm HE
28 8 & 10 am HE 10am SS 11:45am New Member's Class, Cherub & Children's Choirs	29	30 6:30pm Men's Disc				

PERSECUTED CHURCH CALENDAR

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
7 TURKMENISTAN Pray for an intelligence officer whose heart was softened to the gospel by the faithful witness of one of his captives.	1 KUWAIT Pray that more Kuwaitis will hear the Good News of Jesus Christ and place their faith in him.	2 OMAN Pray that Christians worshipping alone will experience the joy and comfort of God's presence.	3 BENIN Pray for new Christians, who are beaten and sometimes even killed by family and community members.	4 QATAR Praise God that Qataris can easily access the Bible through the internet! Pray that many more will read it.	5 SYRIA Pray that front-line workers reaching Syrian refugees will not grow weary.	6 ALGERIA Pray for Berber Christian who continue to share the gospel boldly in and around al-Gaida terrorist camps.
8 UZBEKISTAN Praise God for Mussalam's boldness and faithfulness to the Lord while she was persecuted by Muslim family members!	9 ETHIOPIA Pray for pastors like Dereje, who has been opposed for his Christian witness.	10 CAMEROON Pray for Christians living in villages along the northwestern border, where Islamist attacks have occurred.	11 JORDAN Pray for those ministering to Syrian refugees in Jordan.	12 TANZANIA Pray that Christians and churches on the 99% Muslim island of Zanzibar will have freedom to worship.	13 COMOROS Pray that Christians who are ostracized by their families will find meaningful fellowship with other believers.	
14 VIETNAM Pray for Dinh Hoc's family, whose home was burned down because of their faith in Christ.	15 SRI LANKA Pray for the training and equipping of new pastors to shepherd the growing number of churches.	16 MALAYSIA Pray for the wisdom of Christians who take risks illegally sharing the gospel with the Malay people.	17 SAUDI ARABIA Pray that great numbers of the Saudi royal family will hear the gospel and place their faith in Christ.	18 MALI Pray for missionaries who have been kidnapped in Mali or brought to Mali after being kidnapped elsewhere.	19 KYRGYZSTAN For known Christians, jobs and daily necessities can be difficult to find. Pray that their needs will be met.	20 SUDAN Pray for church leaders who were interrogated and harassed by officials because of their Christian witness.
21 BHUTAN Pray that God's Word will spread throughout Bhutan, as the government tries to restrict widespread Bible distribution.	22 TAJIKISTAN Pray that Christians summoned for questioning by secret police will experience the Holy Spirit's guidance.	23 COLOMBIA Pray for Christians sharing the gospel in rural areas, where paramilitary groups have become more active and violent.	24 NIGER Pray that the small number of Christians will faithfully share the love of Christ with their Muslim neighbors.	25 INDONESIA Pray that Muslims in Aceh province will see the harshness of Islamic law and seek freedom in Christ (Romans 7:6).	26 ERITREA The government tracks each Bible sold. Pray that God's Word will flood the country despite these restrictions.	27 YEMEN Pray that churches will continue to worship and proclaim the gospel after being attacked.
28 CUBA Pastors in Cuba ask for prayer that they will continue to stand firm in their faith.	29 PAKISTAN Pray for the protection of young Christian women from forced marriages, a common tactic of Islamic extremists.	30 UGANDA Pray for the effective training of leaders to share the gospel with Muslims and help those who are persecuted.	<p>“We give thanks to God always for all of you, constantly mentioning you in our prayers, remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ.”</p> <p>—1 Thessalonians 1:2-3</p>			

Time to start the Garden ?

What is a flower's favorite kind of pickle?

A daffo-dill.



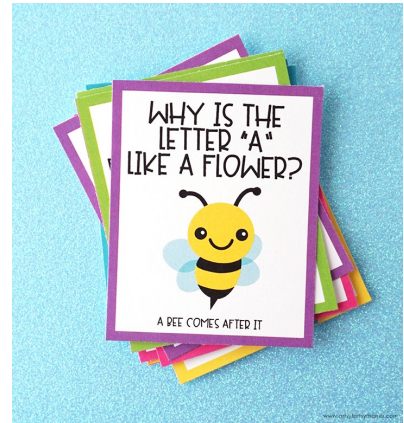
RD

WHAT DAY DO FLOWERS LOOK FORWARD TO ALL WEEK?

SUN-DAY!



TheJokeSite.com



What did the bee say to the flower?

象盒子

Hi, honey.

How does a flower whistle?

By using its tulips.



RD

The Back Pew - Jeff Larson



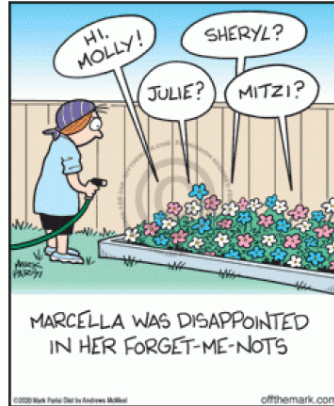
DANDELIONS. The bouquet that screams "I wuv wu mommy!"



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MARCELLA WAS DISAPPOINTED IN HER FORGET-ME-NOTS

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TECHNICALLY, YOU'RE NOT A WEED IF SOMEBODY WANTS YOU...

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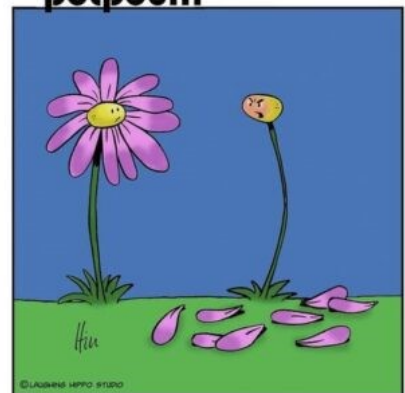
Container Gardening Tip:

When you plant a puppy, make sure the container can comfortably accommodate the full grown dog.



GARDENING
IT'S CHEAPER THAN THERAPY
AND YOU GET TOMATOES.

potpourri



"I AM NOT AGAINST ROMANCE, I JUST WISH THEY'D FIND ANOTHER WAY TO TELL IF HE LOVES HER!"