



# 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 66 NUMBER 10

## The Chatter

OCTOBER 2023

### **ARE WE IN THE LAST DAYS?**

According to God's Word, we are. **Hebrews 1:1-2a** states, ***"God, after He spoke long ago to the fathers in the prophets in many portions and in many ways, in these last days has spoken to us in His Son..."*** Of course, when the Bible mentions **"days"** it doesn't always mean a literal "day." In this context, **"last days"** means the final age of human history between the first and second comings of Christ. Jesus warns us to be ready for His return even though we ***"do not know the day or the hour."*** And yet, there will be preceding signs that we can discern. One such sign is found in **Mt. 24:14** where Jesus says, ***"This gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in the whole world as a testimony to all the nations, and then the end will come."*** "Nations" literally means "peoples" or "ethnic groups."

We are seeing this sign come to pass in our generation! For the first time in history every people group has a chance to be reached with the gospel of Jesus Christ. If the *first* three hundred years of the Christian faith saw the rapid growth of the Church as it went from a small Jewish sect to an empire-wide religion, the *LAST three hundred years* that has seen the Christian faith become a global phenomenon, touching every corner of our world. How and why did this happen and what does it mean for us today? We will answer those questions during our *Friday Night Bible Study* beginning **Friday September 29 (7-8:30 PM)** and continuing every Friday through **November 3**. Using God's Word as a framework, we will look at the personalities, movements, and events that led to the greatest growth of the Christian faith to date and how the Holy Spirit is transforming our world even in the earth's formerly unreached areas. So plan on joining us in person or online for our final study, ***"Revival, Revolution, and to the Ends of the Earth—the Last 300 Years"*** as we conclude our series, ***"Thy Kingdom Come - the Witness of Church History."***

Yours in Christ,  
Fr. Ward

St. Bart's Web Information

[www.stbartston.org](http://www.stbartston.org)

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



St. Bartholomew's  
Anglican Church

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# VESTRY

The September Vestry minutes  
will be in the next Chatter.



"Never mind the dramatics, Watkins. Just read the treasurer's report."

The Stewardship Committee's latest idea for helping to raise the annual church budget.



# 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*

*Andrew Rebl– Army*

*James Kerins– Army*

*Matthew Prohaska– Air Force*



**FOOD PANTRY:** Remember that we collect for the Food Pantry the **first weekend of every month. NIACAP** is so appreciative. Please remember that they also can use personal care items, paper products and soap, etc..

**29 bags and boxes of food, as well as several cash donations, were taken to the Food Pantry in September.**



*Let's continue to show them St. Bart's generosity.*

## Prayer Night

**Thursday, October 19  
at 7pm**



The **TUESDAY NIGHT LADIES BIBLE** Our mission: To grow even closer to the Lord through a greater understanding of His Word with study, prayers and praise, and through fellowship with our sisters in Christ.

Please join us in our in-depth study of Matthew. We will continue going verse by verse. Bring your Bible, a study Bible if you have one.

We meet from 6:30-8:00pm every other Tuesday, in the large fellowship hall.

We would love to welcome you at our meetings!

Contact Louise Jones for more information.

**October meetings will be the 10th and 24th.**



# FOR YOUR INFORMATION

## GriefShare

Meets Saturday mornings at 10:30am. Please sign up on their website if you are interested in attending. See AI Matuch for more information.



**Gift Shop** Even though there no longer is a Bishop Scaife Guild, the shop continues to support several ministries: Threads of Hope, Salvation Army, Meals on Wheels, City Mission, Several missionaries— and others. **Please continue to donate and shop at The Gift Shop.**

**The Dash's Tape Program** Along with the proceeds from the Gift Shop, Dash's receipts also provide money for these ministries. We receive \$2.50 for every \$100.00 in tapes! Tapes must be from 2022 or 2023. Older tapes are not accepted.

Remember to put your Dash's tapes in the bag on the shop



## Men's Discipleship Bible Study

meets every Tuesday evening at 6:30pm. All men are welcome to join us.

And don't forget that a group of men meet every Tuesday at noon for **LUNCH** at various restaurants around town. All men are welcome to join us for this too.

See John Krull, or Dn. John Reitz for more information.

## Men's Breakfast

**Saturday, October 21 at 9am.**



**DEADLINE FOR THE NOVEMBER CHATTER is Tuesday, October 17. Thank you.**



# FOR YOUR INFORMATION

St. Bart's is blessed to have a large church family, and like all large families, sometimes the members encounter situations where they could use the help of others. When they've experienced a death in the family, a disabling illness, or the birth of a child, often a few meals are greatly appreciated.

As the coordinator of this ministry, I am asking for volunteers who are willing to occasionally make a meal when one of the above needs is brought to the attention of the Church Office. Adding more volunteers to the dedicated group of cooks we already have will lessen the number of times any one person is called on to help.

Please prayerfully consider participating in the Meal Assist Ministry. If you can help, or would like more details, please see me at the 10am Sunday service, or call me at 716-832-6684.

Thank you! Brenda Wisz



## The LANCASTER OPERA HOUSE PRESENTS "A CHRISTMAS STORY"

The play is Sunday, December 3rd at 2:30pm.

We have 30 tickets available on a  
first come— first served basis.

Tickets are \$26 each.

See MJ Brzeczowski or Louise Jones  
for tickets or more information.



# Music Notes from Margaret Bukkosy

## October Choir Schedule

*It is not too late! We hope to see some more singers join one of our choirs!*

### The Cherub and Children's Choirs:

*Some exciting news! The Cherub and Children's Choirs will be preparing a musical entitled "100% Chance of Rain" to be presented sometime in 2024. The performance date will be announced in the future. The musical portrays the story of Noah and the Ark. It will have speaking parts and songs. Everyone in these choirs will be involved! Don't let your child miss out! Encourage them to come to rehearsals on Sundays immediately following the 10:00 a.m. service!*



Contemporary Choir Singers will rehearse Wednesday October 18 at 6:00 p.m. for the October 22<sup>nd</sup> service. Dn. Jim Kibby will notify the band of its rehearsal time. Speak to either of us if you need more information.



Adult Choir will rehearse Wednesdays at 7 p.m. October 4<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>. The choir will sing on October 1, 8, and 15, and will be preparing special music for All Saints Sunday and Christmas.





# Next Steps

A Generation Next Newsletter

October 2023

## The Air of Faith



**Have you ever thought about the way air just . . . exists?** You can't see it; you can't hold it, but you know that your lungs will be filled with it when you take a breath. That's faith! –completely trusting that something is real (like air), even without tangible evidence. The way we come to believe in the existence of air is similar to the way we can believe in the existence of the Holy Spirit. Jesus says in John chapter 3 that, *“The wind blows where it wishes and you hear the sound of it, but do not know where it comes from and where it is going; so is everyone who is born of the Spirit.”* We cannot see the wind (or air), but we can experience the effects of it, and the same goes for the Spirit's work in our lives and in the lives of others. As we continue this four-week series from Hebrews, we'll discover how faith moves us to action, and how the faith of others encourages and inspires us to *“(fix) our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of faith.”*

### Next Happenings

#### **Wednesdays, 6:00 - 8:00 pm**

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

#### **Wednesday, October 25th**

NO YOUTH GROUP due to Fall Fest Set-up

#### **Friday, October 27th**

6:00 pm Fall Fest!

#### **Save the Date: Nov. 18th**

7:00 pm Mercy Me, Toby Mac, Zach Williams concert

#### **Wednesday, November 22nd**

NO YOUTH GROUP due to Thanksgiving Holiday

#### **Save the Date: Dec. 20th**

6:00 pm Reindeer Games

*“we feel sure of better things—things that belong to salvation.”*

Hebrews 6:9b ESV



## A Letter From our Director



Liz Burkett

Hi everybody, I hope the start of your school year has been going well. We had a great time at our first two youth events. Miniature golfing at Adventure Landing was a lot of fun as we tried to stop our golf balls from going off track into the water or under the fence. The Jesus Revolution movie was amazing. It was inspiring how the people in the film found hope in Jesus, that Chuck Smith had the courage to invite “hippies” into his church despite the pressure from some members of his congregation to keep them out. Chuck saw what God wanted to do through him and Lonnie Frisbee, and he chose to follow Christ at the risk of his career.

Movies like this can inspire us to deeper faith and trust in Jesus, to make the same choice to follow, even when it could mean losing everything. The good news is that, ultimately, you don't lose. In fact, we gain much more when we choose Christ over this world. So, as you are dealing with all the stress and drama that comes with being back at school remember these words found in the book of Hebrews, “We have this hope as an anchor for the soul, firm and secure” (Hebrews 6:19). The “firm and secure” hope the writer is referring to is Jesus, who stands in the Most Holy place interceding on our behalf. That's right! Jesus remembers you before God the Father and prays for you! With such an Advocate, we have nothing to fear, trusting that we can offer Him our doubts and anxieties in exchange for His peace. Be encouraged this month to offer Jesus everything that weighs you down and allow Him to life you up.

In Christ,  
Liz



On October 27th (6-7:30pm) you're invited to be a part of this year's Fall Fest called Treasure Hunt, where families will have fun as they go to interactive stations to uncover mystery messages, witness volcanic eruptions, and collect treasures along the way! At each station, they'll dig deep into a valuable experience that helps them get to know Jesus in a fresh, new way. We will need people to help with set up and take down, be station leaders and helpers, welcome table greeters, and so on. Details on the event and sign-up sheets will be available at the volunteer meeting on September 27th at 6:30pm in the large fellowship hall or September 24th at 11:30am. Pick the meeting that works best for you

I am so excited to share that TobyMac, MercyMe, and Zach Williams - are teaming up for an unforgettable concert experience at The Key Bank Center on Saturday, November 18th at 7:00pm. For those of you who missed out on Kingdom Bound this summer, this concert is the perfect example of the kind of music we experienced there. Feel free to invite your whole family and friends to this incredible event. Cost is \$25 per person. If you are joining us please let me know ASAP so I can order tickets before they sell out. For more information about these artists go to [www.tobymac.com](http://www.tobymac.com)



Save the Date: Come test your reindeer skills as you try to endear to the end at this awesome game night on December 20th from 6-8pm. We'll have fun as we dance and prance through a 10-game blitz that will be sure and test your wits. Dinner and treats will be provided.

Did you know that October 30th is National Candy Corn Day?



Candy corn has been a seasonal favorite since it was introduced in 1880 by the Goelitz Confectionery Company in Philadelphia. It's fitting that this revolutionary candy would come from the same city where the Declaration of Independence was signed, proving that there is nothing more American than enjoying the tri-color flavors of freedom that make up candy corn. So, pick up some independence today! I believe they sell it by the pound.



# October Birthdays

- 1 Ephraim Bush, Scott Stolz
- 2 Victoria Smith
- 3 Dona Fenzel, Shaw Freeman,  
Elaine Kyser
- 4 Pamela Fish, Sarah Hillery
- 6 Mary Callea, Andrew Kyser,  
Benjamin Wojnowski
- 7 Karen Wheaton
- 8 Teri Hersee, Abigail Weber,  
Juliet Wilkowski, Mark Wojnowski
- 10 Jessica Johnson, Timothy Van Lente
- 11 Robert Derrett Jr., Micah Gray,  
Arthur Ward Sr., Betty Williams
- 12 Carla McNamara, Mary Nowak
- 13 Rocco Brindisi, Dana Weber
- 14 Dr. Kendall Davis, Steven Gradzewicz
- 15 Andrea Bainbridge
- 16 Cassandra Baldi, Nicholas H. Sluyter
- 17 Charles Ward
- 18 Jack Freeman, John McGee,  
Susan Osberg
- 19 Terry Storey
- 20 Eli Kibby, Tammy Krull,  
Dorothy Ruhland
- 21 Ruth Brinkerhoff

- 22 Kimberly Hill, Denise Simon
- 23 Laurie Socha
- 24 Stephen Delisanti, David Randazzo
- 25 Kenneth Johnson
- 26 Adam Kowalyk, Kyrie Wandel
- 28 Mark Hersee, Clare Hillery,  
Brienna Spence
- 29 Elaine Henzler, Cheryl MacDonald,  
Linda Matuch
- 30 Gary Bainbridge
- 31 Bridget Hersee



## NOVEMBER

- 1 Andrew LaDuca, Margaret McCarthy
- 2 Betty Wandel
- 3 Patricia Emmons, Sarah McCarthy
- 4 David Kisloski Jr., Mark LaDuca,  
Riley McAndrews, Cathy Reitz,  
Renee Szymanski, Miles VanSaders
- 5 Karen Dolce

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


# October Calendar

## OCTOBER 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 8 & 10 am HE 10am Sunday School Cherub & Children's Choir Rehearsal	2	3 6:30pm Men's Disc., Neighborhood Watch 7:00pm Vestry	4 9:30 am HE 10:30am Women's Bible Study 6pm Youth Group 7pm Adult Choir	5	6 7pm Fr. Ward's Bible Study "Thy Kingdom Come-the last 300"	7 10:30am Confirma- tion and GriefShare 4:30 pm HE
8 8 & 10 am HE 10am Sunday School Cherub & Children's Choir Rehearsal	9 Columbus Day	10 6:30pm Ladies Bible Study & Men's Disc.	11 9:30 am HE 10:30am Women's Bible Study 6pm Youth Group 7pm Adult Choir	12	13 7pm Fr. Ward's Bible Study "Thy Kingdom Come-the last 300"	14 10:30am Confirma- tion and GriefShare 4:30 pm HE
15 8 & 10 am HE 10am Sunday School Cherub & Children's Choir Rehearsal	16 6:45pm BARRA	17 6:30pm Men's Disc.	18 9:30 am HE 10:30am Women's Bible Study 6pm Cont. Singers 6pm Youth Group 6:30pm Cont. Musicians 7pm Adult Choir	19 7pm Prayer Night	20 7pm Fr. Ward's Bible Study "Thy Kingdom Come-the last 300"	21 9am Men's Breakfast 10:30am Confirma- tion and GriefShare 4:30 pm HE
22 8 & 10 am HE 10am Sunday School Cherub & Children's Choir Rehearsal	23	24 6:30pm Ladies Bible Study & Men's Disc.	25 9:30 am HE 10:30am Women's Bible Study 6pm Youth Group 7pm Adult Choir	26	27 6pm Fall Festival 7pm Fr. Ward's Bible Study "Thy Kingdom Come-the last 300"	28 10:30am Confirma- tion and GriefShare 4:30 pm HE
29 8 & 10 am HE 10am Sunday School Cherub & Children's Choir Rehearsal	30	31 6:30pm Men's Disc.				



# PERSECUTED CHURCH CALENDAR

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	
<b>1</b> <b>ERITREA</b> Pray for the families of Christian prisoners who have fled to other countries.	<b>2</b> <b>KYRGYZSTAN</b> Pray that churches will minister to those unable to find jobs.	<b>3</b> <b>TANZANIA</b> Pray for Mama G., the widow of a martyred pastor, using Psalm 23 as a guide.	<b>4</b> <b>MALI</b> Pray that believers will encourage and support one another amid pressure from Islamists.	<b>5</b> <b>ALGERIA</b> Pray for Berber Christians who are sharing the gospel with the Arab Muslim majority.	<b>6</b> <b>MYANMAR (BURMA)</b> Pray for continued church growth despite persecution.	<b>7</b> <b>COLOMBIA</b> Pray that God will supply the needs of Christian workers in dangerous "red zones."	
<b>8</b> <b>UGANDA</b> Pray for effective print and audio Bible distribution in rural areas and areas of persecution.	<b>9</b> <b>COMOROS</b> Pray that those receiving audio Bibles will come to faith in Christ.	<b>10</b> <b>NEPAL</b> Pray that Bibles will remain legal in the country.	<b>11</b> <b>LAOS</b> Pray that the Holy Spirit will empower evangelists as they proclaim the gospel of Christ.	<b>12</b> <b>QATAR</b> Pray for Qatar's few Christians, who must use caution when gathering for worship.	<b>13</b> <b>MALAYSIA</b> Pray that ethnic Malays will receive a copy of the Bible in their language this year.	<b>14</b> <b>KAZAKHSTAN</b> Pray that ethnic Kazakh Christians will be established in their faith.	
<b>15</b> <b>INDONESIA</b> Pray that front-line workers will find ways to get Bibles to those in remote areas.	<b>16</b> <b>IRAQ</b> Pray that the Holy Spirit will continue to draw Muslims to Christ.	<b>17</b> <b>MOROCCO</b> Pray for the body of Christ, using John 17:20-26 as a guide.	<b>18</b> <b>AFGHANISTAN</b> Pray for Afghan Christians who have been displaced to other nearby restricted nations.	<b>19</b> <b>CUBA</b> Pray that every Cuban believer will have his or her own copy of the Bible this year.	<b>20</b> <b>BANGLADESH</b> Pray for Christians who are learning how to reach their Muslim neighbors.	<b>21</b> <b>INDIA</b> Pray that Christians will remain bold in their faith amid familial and governmental opposition.	
<b>22</b> <b>DJIBOUTI</b> Pray that God will call more laborers to the harvest.	<b>23</b> <b>TURKMENISTAN</b> Pray for evangelists seeking creative ways to share the gospel with Muslims.	<b>24</b> <b>LIBYA</b> Pray that the government will fail in its attempts to close and demolish churches.	<b>25</b> <b>YEMEN</b> Pray for front-line workers who stayed to maintain a Christian witness during the civil war.	<b>26</b> <b>JORDAN</b> Pray that God will provide for Christians who lose jobs, reputations and property.	<b>27</b> <b>MOZAMBIQUE</b> Pray for Christians who have lost everything in recent Islamist attacks.	<b>28</b> <b>LEBANON</b> Pray that new government leaders will see churches as a light in their communities.	
<b>29</b> <b>UZBEKISTAN</b> Pray for the spread of the gospel despite an increase in Islamic fundamentalism.	<b>30</b> <b>SOMALIA</b> Pray for the protection of evangelists risking their lives to work in the country.	<b>31</b> <b>SUDAN</b> Pray that new believers will be firmly grounded in faith as they are disciplined.	<b>NOTES:</b>				
							

# *The Most Beautiful Flower*

The park bench was deserted as I sat down to read, Beneath the long, straggly branches of an old willow tree. Disillusioned by life with good reason to frown, for the world was intent on dragging me down.

And if that weren't enough to ruin my day, a young boy out of breath approached, all tired from play.

He stood right before me with his head tilted down, and said, with great excitement, "Look what I found!"

In his hand was a flower, and what a pitiful sight, with its petals all worn— not enough rain or too little light. Wanting him to take his dead flower and go off and play, I faked a small smile and then shifted away. But instead of retreating, he sat next to my side, placed the flower to his nose, and declared with overacted surprise, "It sure smells pretty and it's beautiful, too. That's why I picked it. Here, it's for you."



The weed before me was dying or dead. No vibrant colors: orange, yellow or red. But I knew I must take it, or he might never leave. So I reached for the flower, and replied, "Just what I need." But instead of him placing the flower in my hand, he held it mid-air without reason of plan. It was then that I noticed for the very first time that weed toting boy could not see: he was blind.

I heard my voice quiver; tears shone in the sun, as I thanked him for picking the very best one. "You're welcome," he smiled, then ran off to play, unaware of the impact he'd had on my day.

I sat there and wondered how he managed to see a self-pitying woman beneath an old willow tree.

How did he know of my self-indulgent plight? Perhaps from his heart, he'd been blessed with true sight.

Through the eyes of a blind child, at last I could see, that the problem was not with the world; the problem was me. And for all of those times I myself had been blind, I vowed to see beauty in life, And appreciate every second that's mine. And then I held that wilted flower to my nose, And breathed in the fragrance of a beautiful rose. And smiled as I watched that young boy, another weed in his hand, about to change the life of an unsuspecting old man.



***Author unknown***