

The Encourager

The Mission of St. Barnabas Church is to live and spread the Gospel of Christ as disciples making disciples.

Saint Barnabas Church
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October 2015

A Message from Father Jim

By now you should all be aware that I am having surgery on October 8th and will be out on temporary disability for six to eight weeks. Some ministries and events such as the monthly Youth Event, Healing Mass, and Dinner and a Movie will be in hiatus until I return to work. As you read in the letter I sent out, Fr. Michael Pearson will be responsible for all things liturgical and pastoral in my absence.

There is a good leadership team here at St. Barnabas with Wardens and Vestry who are committed to the church and who will work hard to see that all the forward progress we have achieved will continue. But I cannot stress strongly enough that they need your help. Remember that our Catechism in the Book of Common Prayer states that the ministers of the church are laypersons, bishops, priests and deacons. As my dear old friend and mentor, Fr. Hebert Bolles, used to say, "Lay people are the shock troops of the church." Hebert spent many years as a military chaplain, serving with a USMC unit in Viet Nam. Shock troops are the first troops sent into the breach. It is your ministry to step into the breach when you see something that needs to be done at St. Barnabas. And remember to ask the parish leadership how you might be able to help out.

Last of all, people have been asking about visiting me in the hospital and while I am convalescing at home. I will gladly receive visits in the hospital or at home. If you are planning on visiting me at home please call me on my cell phone (you should all have the number on your "Emergency Notification" cards) so I will know to expect you. The front door will remain unlocked during the day before Barbara gets home from work. When you arrive just simply ring the doorbell and walk in. And remember to keep me in your prayers so I can get back to you as soon as possible.

Jim+

Welcome Father Michael Pearson

Fr. Michael Pearson is a retired priest. He was ordained to the Diaconate in September 1977 and to the Priesthood in April 1978. He has served at St. Stephen's Church, Providence (1977 – 1981), Church of the Epiphany, Providence (1981 – 1989), St. Mary's Home for Children, North Providence (1978 – 1989), St. Mark's Church, New Canaan, Ct (1989 – 1992), St. Luke's Church, Anchorage, Ky (1992 – 2001), and St. Mary's Church, Wayne, Pa (2001 – 2012). After returning to Rhode Island in May 2013 he has done supply work at numerous parishes in the Diocese. He is married (Julie) and has one daughter (Catherine). He and Julie are currently living in Barrington.

Office Closed



The parish office will be closed on Monday, October 12th, in celebration of Columbus Day.

West Bay Crop Hunger Walk 2015



St Barnabas will again take part in this year's CROP Hunger Walk on Sunday, October 18th. The walk route is the same as last year – a scenic walk along Narragansett Bay from Woodbury Union Church at 58 Beach Ave at corner of West Shore Rd in Conimicut to Conimicut Point Park. We had a great time last year and raised a lot of money for food programs. Registration is at 1:30 p.m., walk starts at 2:00 p.m. Walkers are asked to bring a non-perishable food donation on day of walk. Funds raised go to Church World Services to fight hunger worldwide. 25% of funds raised for this walk will go to West Bay Marketplace for their local food programs. If you wish to register and donate on-line, use the following link to go to the St Barnabas Team page (<http://hunger.cwsglobal.org/goto/StBarnabasRI>). You can also follow the walk on Facebook: (<https://www.facebook.com/wbcrophungerwalk>). See David McIntyre or Julie Mixner to sign up for the walk, make a donation, or if you have any questions.

Update - We also have fund raiser certificates at the back of the church for eating at Chelo's on Post Rd. or Papa Gino's on Airport Rd. on certain dates. Twenty percent of what you spend for food will go to the hunger walk.

Flu Clinic



A flu clinic will be held in Stevens Hall on Sunday, October 18th, from 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Come prepared with your medical information cards and get your flu shot that day. If you don't have medical insurance you can still get a flu shot for a reasonable cost.

Will You Volunteer for Coffee Hour?



One of the most important ministries in this parish is preparing and hosting our Sunday coffee hour. We need members of the congregation to volunteer to serve and assist with this ministry which works best if two to four people take it on to prepare and serve each week. For many years this has been done by just a few members but coffee hour is a wonderful fellowship opportunity and we feel that as many of the congregation that can be involved will make this fellowship even better than it already is. Volunteers can help with many tasks such as provide treats, set up, serve and clean-up. Treats can be home baked, store bought, fruit, vegetables, cheese and crackers, donuts, bagels with cream cheese, brownies, cold drinks, juice, pizza, etc. A sign-up sheet will be located at the back of the church and downstairs. If you have specific questions please speak to Christine Lindopp or Joan Newell.

Calling All Crafters (and those who would like to learn)



You have probably noticed that kneeling at the altar rail can be a little hard on the knees. We would like to create needlepoint kneelers for the altar rail. Joan Schofield and Barbara Fox have started designing needlepoint sets that will be made into kneeling cushions based on the large front stained glass windows. Each kneeler will feature either a star or a cross from those windows, or a symbol important to the church.

We are looking for participation from the congregation at large for help in this endeavor. You need not have needlepoint experience to help, just a willingness to learn and some time (or money) to donate to the project.

There will be several evening sessions to teach anyone not familiar with needlepointing the ins and outs (pun intended) of the craft, plus occasions to get together to share, compare, and address problems that arise. We will be announcing more details in the near future but in the meantime if you have questions or would like to help, please contact Joan or Barbara.

Midweek Eucharist and Exploring Sunday's Scriptures



The midweek celebration of Holy Eucharist is celebrated each Wednesday morning. We meet for worship in the Guild Room at 10:00 a.m. Exploring Sunday's Scriptures, our Bible study that looks at the readings for the coming Sunday, meets each Wednesday morning following the midweek Eucharist. Those who attend say it really enhances their understanding of the lessons as they hear them on Sunday mornings and makes the sermon more meaningful.

Please Fulfill Your Pledge



Our pledged income always takes a dip during the summer months while people are away on vacation. This summer it dipped more than usual and we found ourselves in a tight financial position. If you are not current on your pledge for 2015 would you please prayerfully consider catching up as soon as possible.

Save the Date and Step Up to the Plate



Our annual Holiday Bazaar is scheduled for Saturday, November 21st. It is the only major fund raiser that we hold at St. Barnabas and is important to our operating budget. In addition to that fact, it is also a time of fun and fellowship and a way for potential new members to be introduced to the church.

As you know, some very active, involved families have moved and this has created a bit of a problem for Heidi Seddon, the bazaar chairperson. We are in special need of people to help with the "White Elephant" sale and people to work in the kitchen preparing lunch. And we are always looking for items for the "Handicrafts Table." If you have never been involved with the bazaar please ask Heidi how you can help out.

Fall Cleanup



If the weather cooperates we will hold our Fall Cleanup of the church grounds on Saturday, November 14th, beginning at 9:00 a.m. So please show up at church on Saturday morning with your rakes and other gardening tools. The parish will supply the leaf bags and lunch. Sunday, November 15th has been set for the rain date so if it rains on Saturday please wear or bring old clothes to church. We will get to work after coffee hour.

Music Notes



A favorite hymn text of Charles Wesley states, *O for a thousand tongues to sing my dear redeemers praise!* It is a text which states the dream of any choir director. It could be paraphrased as something like, *O to have a thousand people in the choir so that we could sing four-part, eight-part or even sixteen-part anthems!*

At St. Barnabas Church, we do not have a thousand people in the choir. But on any given Sunday, we do have around 120-150 people in the choir! That's right....our choir has that many voices and tongues to sing.

Singing is a ministry that belongs to *all* the people of God. The congregation is always the *primary* choir in any parish. The role of professional musicians or volunteer choirs is to assist the whole people of God in their worship. In other words, it is the group of singers sitting near the organ who are to *accompany* the choir of singers who are the congregation.

The Swiss theologian, Karl Barth, once stated that singing is not an option for the people of God; but is one of the essential ministries of the church:

The Christian church sings. It is not a choral society. Its singing is not a concert. But from inner, material necessity it sings...what we can say is that the church which does not sing is not the church. And where it does not really sing but sighs and mumbles spasmodically, shamefacedly and with an ill grace, it can be at best only a troubled community which is not sure of its cause and of whose ministry and witness there can be no great expectation.

For Episcopalians, music and song has been a treasure of the church for centuries and continues to play a vital role in the life of God's people. Make it a vital role in your life and a treasure of your faith. Join in the choir of all God's people. And perhaps even consider moving your seat on Sunday morning to sit closer to the organ, and maybe practice sitting in *that* section of the choir on Wednesday evenings at 6:30 p.m.

See you in the choir!

Ted Platt

Director of Music

Food Donations



During these hard economic times, hunger is on the rise. Thanks to your ongoing support, the Community Food Bank has made a difference in the lives of many Warwick residents! Donations of non-perishable foods are graciously accepted at St. Barnabas Church on Sunday mornings. You may hand your donation to one of the ushers or place it in the Food Basket at the back of the church. All of the food collected is then brought to the West Bay Community Food Bank in Buttonwoods. Many thanks to Dave Hartley who delivers these food items to the Food Bank on our behalf!

ALL SAINTS DAY

SPECIAL REMEMBRANCES

Please print the names of loved ones whom you would like remembered in the All Saints' Day Bulletin. Only those who have died in the past year will be remembered by name during the Holy Eucharist.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____
9. _____
10. _____

O God, we praise and magnify thy Holy Name for all thy servants
who have finished their course in thy faith and fear;
for the blessed Virgin Mary; for the holy patriarchs, prophets,
apostles, and martyrs; and for all thy other righteous servants,
known to us and unknown; and we beseech thee that,
encouraged by their examples, aided by their prayers,
and strengthened by their fellowship,
we also may be partakers of the inheritance of the
saints in light; through the merits of thy Son
Jesus Christ our Lord,
Amen

October 2015

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 7 pm Boy Scouts	2	3
4 19 Pentecost 8 am Holy Eucharist 10 am Holy Eucharist	5 6:30 pm Vestry Meeting 7:30 pm AA Meeting	6 7:30 pm AA Meeting	7 10am Holy Eucharist 10:30 am Exploring Sunday's Scriptures 6:30 pm Choir Re- hearsal	8 7 pm Boy Scouts	9	10
11 20 Pentecost 8 am Holy Eucharist 10 am Holy Eucharist	12 Columbus Day Office Closed 7:30 pm AA Meeting	13 7:30 pm AA Meeting	14 10am Holy Eucharist 10:30 am Exploring Sunday's Scriptures 6:30 pm Choir Re- hearsal	15 7 pm Boy Scouts	16	17
18 21 Pentecost 8 am Holy Eucharist 10 am Holy Eucharist 8 am to 1:30 am Flu Clinic	19 7:30 pm AA Meeting	20 7:30 pm AA Meeting	21 10am Holy Eucharist 10:30 am Exploring Sunday's Scriptures 6:30 pm Choir Re- hearsal	22 7 pm Boy Scouts	23	24 11am to 4pm Baby Shower in Schweitzer Hall
25 22 Pentecost 8 am Holy Eucharist 10 am Holy Eucharist	26 7:30 pm AA Meeting	27 7:30 pm AA Meeting	28 10am Holy Eucharist 10:30 am Exploring Sunday's Scriptures 6:30 pm Choir Re- hearsal	29 7 pm Boy Scouts	30	31