



St. Barnabas Episcopal Church

The Banner

An Episcopal parish in the Cape & Islands Deanery of the Diocese of Massachusetts

January/February
2010

Weekly Worship

Sunday

8 a.m.: Rite I
Holy Eucharist
10 a.m.: Rite II
Holy Eucharist

4th Sunday

8 p.m.: Sung Compline

Wednesday

10 a.m.
Holy Eucharist
in the Chapel

Third Wednesday
includes Service
of Healing



St. Barnabas Episcopal Church

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www.stbarnabas-
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January 31

Annual Meeting

Celebrate our church and elect our new Vestry members

The Annual Meeting of the members of St. Barnabas Episcopal Church will be held on Sunday, January 31, at 10 a.m. in the Parish Hall (no 8 a.m. service). We will celebrate the Eucharist together, participate in a business meeting, which includes a presentation of the 2010 budget and the election of Vestry officers, and end with a potluck luncheon. There will be supervised activities downstairs for children of all ages during the business meeting.

**Vestry candidate
profiles on Page 4-5.**

Annual Meeting is an integral part of our church community. It symbolizes our active participation in the "business" of our spiritual home. We vote for our representatives on the Vestry and in the Deanery—a democratic process we as Americans sometimes take for granted and can take a moment on January 31 to bless and acknowledge. At Annual Meeting we review and celebrate all we as a parish have accomplished in the preceding year and we renew our pledge to pursue our hopes and dreams with even greater energy and commitment. Come! Communicate! Celebrate!

Lenten Programs

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper: The Second Annual Arthur Pina Memorial Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper and Mardi Gras will take place on Tuesday, Feb. 16, to mark the end of Epiphany as we welcome the season of Lent. Be sure to read the weekly update and listen for announcements as the date approaches. Those of you who helped before will be glad to know you'll be welcome to help again, plus any and all others. Last year everyone who helped or attended had a fantastic time from setup to cleanup.

Ash Wednesday services: Ash Wednesday services of Holy Eucharist and Imposition of Ashes will be held on Wednesday, Feb. 17, at 7 a.m., 10 a.m. and 7 p.m. in the Chapel.

Lent Program: Details to come, but save Wednesday evenings in Lent beginning on Feb. 24 for soup suppers followed by a Lenten study program. The suppers are open to all people of all ages. We hope to have lots of different soups to try and fellowship to share. This is a great time for fellowship and a good time to get out of the house in the middle of the winter. Please watch for more details to come in the weekly updates and in the Sunday bulletins.

From the rector: The Rev. Patricia Barrett

An epiphany of sorts

Ever since hearing Dr. Jill Bolte Taylor, author of *My Stroke of Insight*, speak about her experience with having a stroke and being able to study what was happening to her body, I have been thinking a lot about the brain. I recommend this book to you for your new year's reading; it will give you pause and, in an odd way, it connects to our spiritual life in ways we may have never thought of before.

It seems that the ways we shape our faith—through symbol, signs, and the power of metaphor as a way of knowing—aligns with what has been discovered about the brain's wiring for insight and epiphany. Revelation and analysis come through our brain in different ways. It has been shown that as we work our way through logic, maybe coming to a solution, our brain is coming up with other solutions. And when we relax—and let go a bit—the breakthrough into insight often occurs. And this is what I love: Brain cells are changed in the moment of epiphany. Epiphany, the season we are in beginning on January 6, happens often when we are in a “dream state.”

Isn't that something? I love it because my best ideas and new ways of thinking usually come in the shower or when I am walking or painting. They come when I am not sitting there willing them to come. It sounds like prayer, doesn't it? It is when we are being open to God, sitting back and letting God come in and move us around a little that things happen, ideas come. This can be your New Year's resolution: Open your heart a bit more. See where you are stuck in some of the nooks and crannies of your life. Where can you relax a bit? Where can you let prayer transform you?

One thing I am sure of is that we cannot find the way we are meant to go alone. We have to gather close to “squint together” for God's presence asking each other, “What do you see? What do you hear? Where is God leading us? What does God hope for us as a church? What can we hope for in the year ahead of us?”

I don't know the answers and I won't know without your help. It is a new year, and we have almost completed one whole year together. I have come to know and to love this church and the people that make it such a vibrant, loving place. What comes next will depend on each of you; what you want to see happen here, what you think God wants to see happen here. It takes time and prayer, time to talk to each other and to vision together.

January is always that time to think about what you want to change. My goal this Epiphany season is to stop running so fast, to stop trying to do so much, and to let the winter embrace me and slow me down. I hope to drink tea with you by the fire and plan on having open tea times at the rectory where we can sit by the fire and dream together. That is what I hope for: lots of dreaming; lots of stopping; pausing. It is good to let feelings come and go and come to a deeper place where God can find us and pull us by the hands so that we can follow and maybe get our church closer to that place of blessedness.

I know I have been blessed this year. I give many thanks for the leaders who have blessed me with their wisdom in these months: Joyce Harrington, whose uplifting spirit and big heart led the church in tireless fashion; Don Johnson, whose abilities and dedication to this church are nothing short of amazing; Doris Weeks, who quietly goes about doing so many things I lose track; Jane Scalli, whose manner is always open and uplifting. And I thank those Vestry members who are finishing their terms: Ginny Barnes, whose smile and ability to say “yes” is a delight; John Schmidt, who always speaks from his heart; and Sue O'Brien, who I am thrilled is going to run for Junior Warden. A special thanks, too, to Sue Davis and Brad Barnes, who stepped up and led the stewardship campaign; and so many others who always do so much. More thanks and recognition and a review of what has happened this year and what we can look forward to will take place at our annual meeting.

Please join us on Sunday, Jan. 31, at 10 a.m. in the Parish Hall for Holy Eucharist, followed by the meeting and then a potluck luncheon. I look forward to it. A blessed Epiphany to each of you.



—Rev. Patti+

From the curate: The Rev. Matthew Potts

Epiphany faith, Advent life

It's mid-December as I write this from our apartment up in Boston, and our family today numbers only two. Colette is ready to pop and growing a bit impatient, but nonetheless we're still waiting for our baby to arrive, which is an appropriate Advent position I suppose. But I am positively overwhelmed by the fact that when you read these words, some weeks from now, (God willing) we won't be two, but three! In fact, you might have already met our little daughter by the time you read this, even though I haven't even met her yet as I write! I must say: it is an odd sensation indeed to write for a future that doesn't yet exist, to reflect upon what we've found from our Epiphany while in fact we're really still just waiting here in Advent.

So I've been bothering Colette for a while about how difficult it is to write a "post-baby" column in my "pre-baby" state. And my wife, surely tired of hearing me complain about a tricky little *Banner* column while she carries our unborn child, at last has said to me, "Well, why don't you just write about that? Isn't that sort of what all this God-stuff amounts to anyway?"



Matt and Colette welcomed Camilla Michiko Potts on Dec. 19, 6:50 p.m., at Boston Medical Center. Matt says: "Momma and baby are both beautiful and healthy, if a bit tired. Daddy is in love forever."

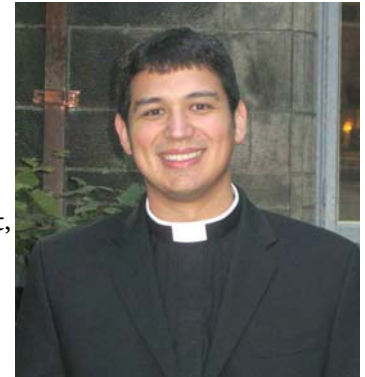
Of course, my wise and wonderful wife is absolutely right; it is what our life in Christ amounts to, isn't it? How better to describe this Christian call than as a commitment to live our lives today based upon a truth we won't see until tomorrow. The Roman archbishop and martyr Oscar Romero said, "We may never see the end results, but that is the difference between the master builder and the worker. We are workers, not master builders; ministers, not messiahs. We are prophets of a future not our own." In so many ways, we Christians are called to have an Epiphany faith while living an Advent life, we're called to act as if we've already seen those things we haven't quite caught sight of yet, we're told to expect a new life while dwelling in an old one. Like John the Baptist living meekly on locusts and honey in the wilderness, we nonetheless behave like wise men, offering gold and frankincense and myrrh to a God upon whom we wait.

This is a tall task sometimes, I know, much tougher than writing a column for the St. Barnabas *Banner* or even than waiting for a baby. Often the future which awaits us is considerably less joyful than all that. As Romero says, the future is not our own, and it may treat us badly at times. It would be naïve to imply that our waiting was only ever rewarded with joy. A few weeks ago Colette and I received news that a good friend has Lou Gehrig's disease, and it's hard not to struggle with the knowledge that the days we impatiently number while waiting for our child are numbered days for him now, too, but in a crueler way. Time plods on, and as the new year tumbles towards us with its annual share of inevitable sorrows and joys, we cannot help but wait for things unseen, both good and bad. But one thing we've seen at least: the Word of God, made flesh last month at Christmas, and in the lives and loves of our brothers and sisters here at St. Barnabas every day. May this be sight enough to satisfy the struggles of our waiting, and may you enjoy a holy season of Epiphany in 2010.

—Rev. Matt

Youth service and fellowship

The Rev. Matthew Potts leads twice-monthly Sunday services for teens at 4 p.m., in the Chapel. Worship is followed by a shared and prepared meal of international cuisine in the Parish House.



Vestry candidates seek higher calling at St. Barnabas

Chance Reichel, Senior Warden



I have been a member of St. Barnabas Episcopal Church for more than 10 years. During our time at the Church, I have served in many different ways; I was a member of the finance committee and the Berhren's Fund committee, for a year as Vestry member, and then served as the treasurer for our church for three years. During most of our family's 10-year membership I have also served as a lay Eucharistic minister, helping serve the sacraments during communion, and a part time lay reader and acolyte, when needed. I have presented different topics to the ECM at St. Barnabas during their Saturday morning meetings. I am also usually in the background at many of the church choir's happenings or perhaps I have taken your money during a Lobster on the Lawn get together during the summer, or served or cooked BBQ chicken during the Strawberry Festival. St. Barnabas also asked me to be a part of the rector nominating committee.

St. Barnabas has been and will always be a special place for me and my family. It has been a place where I have had the pleasure of watching our children grow into young adults and be confirmed, also sharing in the fellowship of service and prayer that we all participate in. We—my wife, Sandy and our three young adults, Megan, Andrew and Timothy—usually attend the 10 a.m. service as all my family members have been a part of the choir.

When not doing something church-related I can be found managing my project consulting business. I have 24 years of management experience that I use to assist my clients' with the management of their projects, which includes project leadership, risk, cost and vendor management, stakeholder analysis and negotiations. My business practice also involves lecturing at Boston University's Metropolitan College and The Gordon Institute at Tufts University.

Susan O'Brien, Junior Warden



A member of St. Barnabas for several years, I am completing a term on Vestry. I serve as the acolyte coordinator and sing in Compline and in the Canterbury Choir.

I enjoy working in the Special Education Department at Falmouth High School. By day I work with a population of students whose age, socio-emotional/behavioral level and academic ability vary greatly. By night, I tutor students both privately, and through the Falmouth School District. In my spare time, I provide respite for a local family.

I have two college-aged children and elderly dog. In the summer I tutor, and am employed as the parking supervisor for the Town of Falmouth Beach Department.

My goals in accepting the position of Junior Warden include supporting Patti as she continues in her first year here at St. Barnabas. I believe in providing accessible, fair and honest leadership for our parishioners, and look forward to working closely with the rector and Sr. Warden as we continue to build a community solid in footing, and visible in the greater community.

Helen Gordon, Treasurer



I have been active at all levels of EC-USA from parish to General Convention and have been at St. Barnabas since the early 1990s. I previously served on the Vestry. I'm currently on the Congregational Development Grant Committee for the diocese, a co-convenor for the Cape & Islands Deanery, an alternate deputy for General Convention and in the choir and schola.

I work in IT at WHOI supporting grants management applications as a developer and trainer. This requires thorough understanding of budgeting and accounting procedures and policies for sponsored research. I have served on number of volunteer nonprofit boards and I am a Town Meeting member for Precinct 8. My experience working at the deanery and diocesan levels is helpful to understanding the role of the Treasurer in a parish. Accepting the nomination for parish treasurer feels like the next step I am being called to take in my faith journey.

Annual Reports are due in the office by January 15 to be included in the Annual Report.

Vestry candidates (continued)

Ambrose Jearld, Jr.



Ambrose Jearld, Jr. has been an active member of St. Barnabas for many years and regularly attends the 10 a.m. service. He has been an usher, served on a search committee and was a former vestry member, and has participated in the Episcopal Church Men's group.

Ambrose grew up in Maryland and North Carolina and graduated from Maryland State College, now the University of Maryland Eastern Shore, with a degree in biology. He worked as a chemist with Publicker Industries in Philadelphia and served in the U.S. Army between earning his graduate degrees in zoology at Oklahoma State University.

He taught biology at Lincoln University in Pennsylvania and zoology at Howard University in Washington, D.C., before moving to Falmouth, where he has been a fisheries biologist at NOAA's Northeast Fisheries Science Center's Woods Hole Laboratory since 1978. He has conducted and published research and served as an administrator and manager, and currently is the director of Academic Programs. He is a member and serves on the boards of numerous professional and technical scientific societies, including the research society, Sigma Xi. He is a member of the Board of Trustees at the Massachusetts Maritime Academy and the Sea Education Association, and is a member of the National Association of Marine Laboratories Education and Diversity Working Group.

Ambrose is married and lives in Falmouth with his wife, Anna C. Martin-Jearld, Ph.D., who is a professor of social work at Bridgewater State College. They have an adult daughter, Saba, and son, Asa. Among the activities Ambrose has enjoyed in his spare time is singing with the Greater Falmouth Mostly All-Male Chorus and travel.

Jean Davis Taft



A cradle Episcopalian, Jean Davis Taft has been part of the St. Barnabas community since 1995 when she moved with her husband, Duane, from New York City to the village of North Falmouth. Jean has found a family at St. Barnabas that has supported the Taft family in countless ways: friendship, encouragement, suggestions, love, and support have been a few of the many ways members of our parish have lifted up the Tafts for more than 14 years.

Jean has been played a role in many of the groups here at St. Barnabas. She co-chaired and then chaired for three years the Strawberry Festival; she served on the vestry almost a decade ago; she taught Sunday school; she is an usher, a lector, and a lay Eucharistic minister; she serves on the altar guild; she is part of the playground renovation committee; she works with Lobster on the Lawn in the summer, and she sings in the Canterbury choir. She is honored to have been asked to serve on the Vestry for the next three years, and she believes that being involved with these different groups will help her provide a vox populi during Vestry deliberations.

Grateful to have been asked to serve, Jean is aware of the many tasks that face St. Barnabas as we move forward with Patti at the helm. She brings open eyes, listening ears, tempered statements, and a loving heart to the Vestry table. Please keep all the members of the Vestry in your prayers as the year ahead unfolds.

Annie Holden



I moved to West Falmouth from the Lower Cape in 1999, and became a member of the congregation at St. Barnabas in 2000. I was baptized and confirmed at St. Peter's Episcopal Church in Albany, N.Y., and thereafter attended Christ Church in Harwich Port. I have relished the many educational opportunities at St. Barnabas, such as the Tuesday night groups, and Advent and Lenten programs. My work on the Outreach Committee and Overnights of Hospitality have been particularly meaningful and enriching experiences. I love the warmth and camaraderie of helping out at the Strawberry Festival and Christmas Fair, not to mention the shopping and eating! I find that I am deeply moved by participating in the service as a lector, in particular leading the Prayers of the People. I have been privileged to transport folks to and from church, and hope that we can reach out more to those who wish to be present with us on Sunday. I am an ardent fan of the music program at St. Barnabas and thank God every week for the hard work of the choir and Randolph. Finally, I am an attorney with the Department of Children and Families, litigating custody and termination of parental rights cases. My work is difficult, and I cannot overstate the powerful emotional support that I receive from my involvement with, and commitment to St. Barnabas, and from all of you.

Youth Group very busy with service projects

The St. Barnabas Youth group has been very successfully busy with the arrival of Rev. Matt.

We have seen a larger number of kids showing up each time we meet because we have been getting the word out that youth group isn't only all church stuff, but also we have lots of fun activities. Every other Sunday evening we hold a little youth service that includes making our own dinner from "different places." The service that we have goes with the type of dinner we are making. The recent dinners we have had were an Italian dinner, a service from Hong Kong, and then the Native American/Pilgrim feast, the Sunday before Thanksgiving. Making the dinners is a privilege because we learn to work as a group and learn what people like and dislike, such as myself not liking the "fish balls" from Hong Kong. We all prepare the meal together then we all sit family style while we are eating dinner and share how our week went. After dinner, even though every kid doesn't want to clean up, we work as a team and get the mess picked up any way.

Recently we took a trip to Boston for the Diocese Convention and Youth Rally. We carpooled up there, which was another chance to get to know each other. Once we got there we got to see Matt and Colette's campus home at Boston University. It was exciting because we got to eat at a college cafeteria, which made myself and some others want that kind of school food. Some of us experienced riding the subway for the first time as we traveled from Matt's apartment to Trinity Church. Once we got to Trinity we picked up free T-shirts and went into a huge tent outside to celebrate Bishop Tom Shaw's anniversary. Many youth from around Boston were there to celebrate. The service afterwards in the big church was amazing because the setting was beautiful and all of the songs were fun to sing. There was actually a band that made the service more interesting because I am interested in the art of music.

At the Alternative Gift Market, that was held at the church recently, the youth set up a bake sale that earned a lot of money for important causes. Rather than keep the money we raised to do something to support our own youth activities we decided to spend all of the money at the gift market. We bought a share of a sewing machine for a woman in India, swimming lessons and baseball equipment for children at the Cape Cod Challenger Club and a leash for a homeless dog in Falmouth. We also bought school supplies for a child at the Cape Cod Center for Women, a clutch of chicks from Heifer International, a health kit for a student in Sudan and books for a school in Israel Palestine.

We held our second annual Thanksgiving pie sale and did not sell as many as last year, but we had some fun together baking, packaging and working during the pick-up times. The money we raised from this event will help us pay for our summer concert: Seven Glory comes to St. Barnabas the night of the Strawberry Festival!

We spent one of our Sunday evenings preparing for our annual Christmas Fair as my mother and Matt called it "Pizza and Potpourri." We had many crafts we needed to put together to sell at our table. I chose to put together the fleece pillows because I recently made a fleece blanket for an AIDS patient as part of a school health project which made me feel like I accomplished something important. I was very surprised at the amount of kids who actually showed up to accomplish this goal. There were nine of us teens which got the job done fast. In reward to getting everything done, and showing Matt wrong in thinking that we could never finish it all, we got to go outside and play Manhunt around the campus of the church. It came to my attention that the past couple of dinners we have had we got to know each other so well it wasn't weird to be playing a game we would play with our school friends.

I feel that the youth group is finally becoming something that I enjoy being a part of. It gives me another safe and fun environment to hang out with kids that share the same interests as I do in the church with our individual personalities. We look forward to spending more time together in the activities we will be holding throughout the new year. We will keep you posted.

—Kailee Stroh

January/February Events

Lessons and Carols, Jan. 3 and 10

The 10 a.m. service on Jan. 3 will feature Lessons and Carols. In addition, the Canterbury Choir offer an Epiphany service of Lessons and Carols on Jan. 10 at 4 p.m.; a reception will follow.

Family games night, Jan. 17

Farkle, Quiddler, Cranium, Pictionary, CatchPhrase, Trivial Pursuit, Phase10, Five Crowns, Upwords, Ticket to Ride, Pit—just a few of the great games that will be available to play on the first of many St. Barnabas Games Nights, Jan. 17, 4-8 p.m.! We'll also have available old favorites: Scrabble, Hearts, Cribbage, Monopoly, Clue and Parcheesi. All ages welcome. Keep your eye on the weekly eNews for further details! Sponsored by the St. Barnabas Youth Group and the Fellowship Committee.

Workshop on Final Wishes, Jan. 13

Many times we find that one a loved one dies, no one in the family really knows what they would like for their funeral, where to find records and files, and concise biographical information to write an obituary. None of this is easy to talk about with your family, but it is important.

In order to begin to address this and to have files ready on our church members to help with end-of-life issues, we are going to hold a number of workshops going over these things. We will fill out forms that can be copied and given to family members; we'll talk about how difficult it is to talk about these issues, and whatever else comes up!

We will do a number of these throughout the year. The first will be held on Wednesday, Jan. 13, at 11 a.m. after the 10 a.m. Eucharist. Do let our rector know if you will be there so we have enough materials available. If you have any questions call the office or email the rector at revpat1@mac.com.

You do not have to be older to attend this workshop; everyone needs to talk about these issues no matter what your age!

Please note: We will hold an evening workshop in March and again one in the late spring.

Adult Christian Formation, Tuesday nights

Adult Christian Formation will be led in January by our curate, Rev. Matt. We will devote the first two sessions to an examination of reconciliation and forgiveness. In the next two sessions we will experience a book by Cormac McCarthy, which Matt characterizes as one of his favorites. Join us 6-7 p.m. on Tuesday nights in the Parish House.

Rev. Patti has asked Joyce Harrington to assemble a committee to revitalize and expand our adult Christian education experiences. A meeting is set for Jan. 24, after the 10 a.m. service.

Forum schedule

Jan 3: No Forum

Jan 10: Experience in Kenya, by David Nawrocki.

Jan 17: The Theology of Martin Luther King led by Rev. Matthew Potts.

Jan 24: "Aging in Place: Neighborhood Falmouth and the National Movement," presented by Vicky Cullen, president of Neighborhood Falmouth.

Jan 31: No forum; Annual Meeting

February Forums will be announced in the Sunday bulletins and weekly emails.

Sunday School schedules

Jan 3: No classes

Jan 10, 17, 24: Classes held

Jan 31: No classes, Annual Meeting. There will be an activity for the children during the meeting time.

Feb.7, 14, 21: Classes held

Feb. 28: No classes, Family Sunday

Parents: As of Jan. 10, our Sunday School will start at 9:45 a.m in classrooms, and children will be brought into church to join their parents just before communion. This new schedule will enable families to receive communion together and for the teaching staff to participate in the service as well.

The nursery is available each Sunday for infants and toddler care during the 10 a.m. service. We encourage the children to bring a small weekly offering to class. This helps the children better understand what giving to others is all about.

Ministry updates

Stewardship update

We celebrated the in-gathering on November 22 with balloons, cake and a joyful blessing of the pledges that had been received. As the Finance Committee considers the budget to present at the Vestry and then to Annual Meeting in January, your Stewardship Committee is making this appeal to those of you who have not yet submitted your pledge for the coming year. We are about 20 pledges short of the number received last year at this time. Happily the average pledge is about \$60 higher than last year. Imagine the generous hearts in these economically challenging times. On the other hand, we have not heard from about 60 parishioners who pledged last year. Hopefully we will also hear from the new members and others we have not heard from in recent years. We must moderate our dependence on our endowment funds to meet the operating budget. St. Barnabas needs your help!

For those who have responded so far, we, on behalf of our church family, send a big thank you and our sincere wishes to you and your families for a healthy and happy New Year.

—Brad Barnes and Sue Davis

Ministry of Comfort and Joy

This is a new ministry at St. Barnabas that will offer a variety of activities where we can celebrate our joy together at St. Barnabas and welcome new friends. Any ideas are welcome and we hope to work with some of the existing committees at St. Barnabas; please watch for Patti's weekly St. Barnabas email update. The Sunday Bulletin is also a great way to see what we have planned.

We have gotten together and had a great time making organic bath salts, we learned how to make mittens for the bazaar mitten tree; in the future we would like to share our soup recipes with Soups On; we would gather and make soup before Compline. With this we will enjoy fellowship making the soup, sharing it with others before Compline and have some to take to share with those that can not join us in church. And best of all enjoy the beautiful

service of Compline. Please contact Debbie Gentile via the office (508-548-3863) with any ideas you may have that offer comfort and joy to us and to share with others.

Some activities that you might see in the future: Stretching beyond the pew (an exercise stretching in the church..to help us keep our balance in and out of church); a walk through Beebe Woods; sunrise walk along South Cape Beach and warm up for coffee or breakfast; Tea Time (a cup of tea); MuffinMania (making muffins); celebrating the spirit of St. Nicholas throughout the year; movie night; a wine and cheese party; a sail on Vineyard Sound; a cookie swap; a trip to Nantucket; labyrinth walk; and more.

—Debbie Gentile

Welcoming Peace

St. Barnabas is continuing on our journey to welcome and encourage people to join our energized, friendly and loving parish. Kathy Wessling is a wonderful example of caring service to help all feel welcome at St. Barnabas by visiting the shut in and sick, and encouraging new members to join activities. Her unlimited energy and service has been greatly appreciated by parishioners and visitors who return time and again because of this outpouring of attention, care and friendship.

As a Welcoming Committee consisting of eight parishioners, we have concentrated on actively following through after greeting newcomers in the narthex, introducing ourselves to new members at coffee hour, encouraging them to go to the 9 a.m. forums and to join us for other activities and committees in which they might be interested. The Welcoming Committee plans on having a potluck dinner January 9 for new members and their sponsors to welcome them into the church. We are always open to new committee members, so if you are interested please do not hesitate to call Delle Moore.

We meet in the conference room the first Tuesday of every month at 5 p.m. Please join us.

—Delle Moore

Get to know a parishioner: Bob Sherwood

Vestry member called to diaconate

For the past year, Vestry member Bob Sherwood has been on the path toward ordination as a deacon. In December, Bishop Tom Shaw informed Bob and that we would be starting his three-year diaconate education in June. Below is a bit about Bob's journey, in his own words.

"The process began when Rev. Pat Eustis approached me and said that she'd been observing my work as a lay Eucharistic minister and visitor, and felt that I should give serious consideration to whether or not I felt "called" to ordained ministry. My initial reaction was: "You've gotta be kidding me!" I decided to take her seriously though, and talk to the people I always go to for advice: My wife, my daughter, and my old friend Harry Taplin. Nancy and Suzanne both



told me that they'd always known I was called to that vocation. Harry, who served with me as a lay leader in my previous parish was equally encouraging. Did I mention that I also did a lot of praying?

"When I attended the Diocesan Ministry Discernment Conference in February 2009, I felt more comfortable with the idea, but still wondered if I was really 'worthy.' Bishop Shaw advised us that the Christian response to baptism is always to offer ourselves for ministry. He then said: "Let the church decide." I thought that was pretty sound advice so I followed it. I discovered immediately that the church is quite thorough in making that decision.

"My next step was to begin working with a Parish Discernment Committee of experienced parishioners consisting of Dick Boyden, Emily Heald, Cynthia Pina and Will Barrett. They met with me for two months before they submitted their report and recommendations to the Vestry for approval. Following review of the Discernment Committee's Report and my personal presentation, the Vestry and rector decided to recommend me to the diocese. By this time it was early June and I had to prepare a very thick application package to the diocese. In mid-November I was interviewed at the Barbara C. Harris Conference Center in New Hampshire.

"Decision: This refers to the bishop's decision to invite a person to become a postulant for Holy Orders. That decision is informed by the recommendations of the Parish Discernment Committee and Vestry, and the Diocesan Commission on Ministry. In November I was interviewed by 11 members of the Diocesan Commission on Ministry, two members of the Diocesan Standing Committee, and Bishops Shaw and Cederholm. The questioning was thorough and searching. As far as I could tell it focused on the following:

- Asking me to articulate the nature of my call.
- How do my gifts match the sacramental duties of a Deacon
- Who is Jesus Christ to me? What is the nature of my relationship to Him?
- My faith life and my prayer life

"I had decided the night before that I was going to turn the whole thing over to the Lord and just try to answer all questions as honestly and forthrightly as I could. I found that I actually enjoyed the experience. At the conclusion I felt satisfied that I'd had the opportunity to explain myself and that I could accept and live quite happily with whatever decision the bishop's made. Bishop Cederholm told us that we could expect to hear from them sometime in late December or early January. I went home prepared to endure the suspense of the next six weeks as patiently as I could. Imagine my surprise when the letter came before Thanksgiving."

Diocesan clergy allowed to marry all eligible couples ***Lectionary***

As of Nov. 29, clergy of the diocese may solemnize marriages for all eligible couples, Bishop M. Thomas Shaw, SSJE has announced.

The decision comes after a long discernment process leading up to and continuing after the action of General Convention this past July allowing that “bishops, particularly in dioceses within civil jurisdictions where same-gender marriage is legal, may provide generous pastoral response to meet the needs of members of this church.”

The full text of Bishop Shaw’s statement can be found at www.diomass.org. Excerpts are featured below:

“Christian marriage is a sacramental rite that has evolved in the church, along with confirmation, ordination, penance, and the anointing of the sick, and while it is not necessary for all, it must be open to all as a means of grace and sustenance to our Christian hope.

“I believe this because the truth of it is in our midst, revealed again and again by the many marriages—of women and men, and of persons of the same gender—that are characterized, just as our church expects, by fidelity, monogamy, mutual affection and respect, and the holy love which enables spouses to see in one another the image of God.

“In May of 2004 the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court opened civil marriage in our state to same-gender couples. That ruling set up a contradiction between what civil law would allow and what our church’s canons and formulary state, which is that marriage is between a man and a woman. And so, for more than five years now, while faithfully waiting for the General Convention of the Episcopal Church to act in response, we in the Diocese of Massachusetts have been living at some cost with an imperfect accommodation: Our clergy have not been allowed to solemnize same-gender marriages, but they have been permitted to bless them after the fact.

“In July of this year, the 76th General Convention adopted resolution C056, ‘Liturgies for Blessings.’ It allows that “bishops, particularly those in dioceses within civil jurisdictions where same-gender marriage, civil unions or domestic partnerships are legal, may provide generous pastoral response to meet the needs of members of this church.”

“Your bishops understand this to mean for us here in the Diocese of Massachusetts that the clergy of this diocese may, at their discretion, solemnize marriages for all eligible couples, beginning Advent I. Solemnization, in accordance with Massachusetts law, includes hearing the declaration of consent, pronouncing the marriage and signing the marriage certificate. This provision for generous pastoral response is an allowance and not a requirement; any member of the clergy may decline to solemnize any marriage.

“While gender-specific language remains unchanged in the canons and The Book of Common Prayer, our provision of generous pastoral response means that same-gender couples can be married in our diocese. We request that our clergy follow as they ordinarily would the other canonical requirements for marriage and remarriage. And, because The Celebration and Blessing of a Marriage in The Book of Common Prayer may not be used for marriages of same-gender couples, we ask that our priests seek out liturgical resources being developed and collected around the church.

“We have not arrived at this place in our common life easily or quickly. We have not done it alone. This decision comes after a long process of listening, prayer and discernment leading up to and continuing after General Convention’s action this past summer. Our Diocesan Convention recently adopted a resolution of its own expressing its collective hope for the very determination that your bishops have made. Even so, we know that not all are of one mind and that some in good faith will disagree with this decision. Our Anglican tradition makes space for this disagreement and calls us to respect and engage one another in our differences. It is through that tension that we find God’s ultimate will.

—M. Thomas Shaw, SSJE

Jan. 3

Jeremiah 31:7-14
Ephesians 1:3-6,15-19a
Matthew 2:13-15,19-23
Psalm 84

Jan. 10

Isaiah 42:1-9
Acts 10:34-38
Luke 3:15-16,21-22
Psalm 89:1-29

Jan. 17

Isaiah 62:1-5
1 Corinthians 12:1-11
John 2:1-11
Psalm 96

Jan. 24

Nehemiah 8:2-10
1 Corinthians 12:12-27
Luke 4:14-21
Psalm 113

Jan. 31

Jeremiah 1:4-10
1 Corinthians 14:12b-20
Luke 4:21-32
Psalm 71:1-17

Feb. 7

Judges 6:11-24a
1 Corinthians 15:1-11
Luke 5:1-11
Psalm 85

Feb. 14

Exodus 34:29-35
1 Corinthians 12:27-13:13
Luke 9:28-36
Psalm 99

Feb. 21

Deuteronomy 26:(1-4)5-11
Romans 10:(5-8a)8b-13
Luke 4:1-13
Psalm 91

Feb. 28

Genesis 15:1-12,17-18
Philippians 3:17-4:1
Luke 13:(22-30)31-35
Psalm 27

News and notes from around the parish

Notes from The Library

We have added the following three new titles to the library this month:

The Case For God by Karen Armstrong

The Future of Faith by Archibald Cox

The Sisters of Sinai: How Two Lady Adventurers

Discovered the Hidden Gospels by Janet Soskice

Also added are five older books by Madeleine L'Engle: These include three more in her *Crosswicks Journal*, *Glimpses of Grace: Daily Thoughts and Reflections*, and *Walking on Water: Reflections on Faith and Art*.

Several other books which have been donated will be processed and delivered to the library as they are made ready. Look for these on the table and face out on the shelves.

If you have any requests, please contact Mary Heard.

CWU events in January through March

Church Women United's nominations for its annual Human Rights Awards close January 15. The awards will be presented at a brunch at Our Lady of Victory Church, Centerville, February 12. The 2010 theme, "Living the Challenge: Differently Enabled, Uniquely Called," will honor Cape Cod individuals who have overcome challenges to inspire others, or who have worked with and for people with disabilities. Contact Alice Batchelder pronto if you have someone in mind (I do.)

During January and February, St. Barnabas will prepare to host World Day of Prayer, which will be Friday, March 5. Our service is one of 10 on Cape, and is scheduled for 1 p.m. Written by women of Cameroon, the 2010 theme is "Let Everything That Has Breath Praise God." Charlene Higbe will be our organist. All (not just women) are welcome. We will have volunteer participants recruited from other local parishes. In preparation, can you do some telephoning? Can you agree to bake or be a reception helper?

Would you like to be a reader, greeter or usher? Please let me know. Thanks.

—Alice Batchelor

Invitation to all ushers and greeters

All those who are already serving as ushers or greeters in the parish and those who would like to be part of this important ministry in the church are invited to a breakfast on Saturday, Jan. 9, at 8:30 a.m. in the Parish House. Please come and talk about what we hope to do with greeters here at the church and let's go over what we do during each service. Please RSVP by calling the office and saying, "Yes, I will be there."

—Delle Moore

Thank you St. Barnabas!

The steering committee for the Upper Cape Cod Alternative Gift Market is so very grateful for the support of the parish of St. Barnabas. Many thanks for the use of the hall; the market was in an opportune location. Also, thank you to the sextons and volunteers who worked tables and made everyone welcome. Thanks to the youth group for the wonderful baked goods and their participation. Most importantly, thanks to everyone who came out to support the market. May your generosity be contagious!

ECM: Episcopal Church Men

The Episcopal Church Men will meet for breakfast on Saturday, January 30 at 8:30 a.m. at the Holiday Inn, 291 Jones Road. Have you ever wished you could preserve old photos that mean so much to you? Paul Gentile will show us how.

The February 27 meeting will be presented by Toby Lineaweaver, director of the Penikese Island School. He will discuss this highly successful program for troubled youth. All are welcome to attend these breakfast meetings.

—Bill Platt

The Episcopal Church's newest Web site, www.globalgood.org, outlines information about the many ways we can make the Millennium Development Goals a reality.

News and notes from around the parish

ECW: Potts Family Welcome and Baby Shower

Women of the parish are invited to welcome the Potts family—Rev. Matt, Colette and Camilla—with a baby shower. The baby shower luncheon will be held in the Parish House on Tuesday, January 26, at noon. Please join us to welcome them all. Watch for additional information in the Sunday bulletins and weekly e-mail updates. For info, contact Cyndy Ogden or Nancy Sherwood.

Please note there will not be an ECW meeting in February. Next regular meeting will be March 23.

ECW Scholarships for high school graduates

ECW awards scholarships to high school graduates in June. Any high school senior who is a member of St. Barnabas is eligible to apply for a scholarship. Interested students should submit an essay explaining their activity in parish life and the importance of faith in their lives. Please submit your essay to Rev. Patti Barrett by April 1.

The Caring Visitors Ministry

This past year Rev. Patti Barrett concluded that there was a definite need to develop a ministry aimed at providing caring contact to members of our Parish who were not able to attend regular worship services; shut-in, either at home or in nursing homes; or are going through pain and struggle alone. In short, our brothers and sisters who needed to know that someone else cared and is concerned for them. The need was so great that it was getting beyond the ability of the rector, assistant and LEMs to respond effectively. She talked to Bob Sherwood, one of the lay Eucharistic visitors, and asked if he would help her develop and teach a class which would equip people for this vital ministry.

With Rev. Patti's assistance we have developed a list of people in our congregation whom we thought might need a friendly, caring visitor from time to time. There were more than 35 people on the list we developed. Each class member agreed to contact specific people on that list, confirm that they would like to be visited, and set up a regular schedule for visits. We committed to meeting regularly for "check-in,"

to share the experience we'd gained, to identify our own support needs as they arose, and to add more people to the list. We will continue to meet regularly and expand our visiting "footprint." Perhaps at some point we might even consider venturing outside the Parish family into the larger community? Who can tell where this might lead?

Rev. Patti hopes to conduct another class in the next year. If you are interested perhaps it would be a good idea to talk to one of the visitors listed above to get a better idea of what it's all about. If you're still interested please contact Rev. Patti. We can always use many more visitors.

—Bob Sherwood

Relay for Life team for St. Barnabas

I have been involved in Relay for Life for four years now. I started a team for teachers in my school in 2007 after the death of one of our students from a rare form of cancer. I found out what a rewarding and emotional experience the Relay for Life can be. In 2009, we had a very small team, but for me, it was my most meaningful relay since I was a survivor. I cannot begin to describe the powerful emotions I felt as I walked the Survivors' Lap and later lit candles to remember loved ones who have succumbed to cancer, celebrate survivors, and offer hope to fight.

This year, Falmouth has joined Bourne, Mashpee and Sandwich to be part of the Upper Cape Relay for Life and I would like to start a team from Saint Barnabas. The event will take place June 25-26 at the Barnstable County Fairgrounds. Would you like to join our team? Teams commit to walk the track from Friday evening through noon on Saturday. Of course, not all team members must walk the entire night! This is a wonderful event for bonding and raising money for a cure. The ideal size for a team is 10-20 members, but we could have several teams if you are interested in joining.

Matt has some interest from the Youth Group and Saint Barnabas will even host the kick off event for this year's Relay on January 28 in the Parish Hall. Come learn more about it!

—Susan Schmidt

News and notes from around the parish

From the Flower Lady

Recently I attended the talk given by Dick Carter regarding the history of how St. Barnabas came to be a parish and the people behind the story. The mystery is threefold: 1) What are the names of the matriarch and patriarch of the Beebe family, 2) What were their children's names, and 3) name the family members and the buildings they were responsible for building on our campus. The first person to answer all questions correctly, will receive a prize from the Flower Lady.

By the way, did you know that St. Barnabas, is fortunate enough to have two "Flower Ladies?" The Sr. Flower Lady and my personal muse is Shelley Baker-Vance. Kudos to Shelley for the stunning evergreen display in the chapel garden font.

Also, the Jr. Flower Lady would like to thank the ECW, who made all the wreaths for doors on the church, chapel, Parish Hall, house and rectory, and for the ribbons adorning the lampposts. Thanks to Paul and Steve, our sextons, and the Altar Guild, for helping to pull it all together. A shout-out to Gordon Ganter and Randolph James for the poinsettias at the base of the altar, and to Allen of Allen's House of Flowers for the decorating of the pulpit and arches of the entrance doorway.

Please keep an eye out for the 2010 Flower Calendar for the Altar Flowers. These are for the Altar Flowers that are changed weekly. They can be to remember a loved one, or to honor/give thanks for someone. The Flower Calendar may be found in the church Narthex (foyer) on Sundays, and in the chapel on Wednesdays.

Please share some "floral warmth" this year by signing on with your name and phone number. Please make checks payable to "St. Barnabas Memorial Church" and write "Altar Guild Flowers" in the memo line, for either \$70 for both vases or \$40 for one vase, along with your name, phone number and to whom they are given. There are envelopes by the calendar for your check and info. They can be placed in the collection plate, given to Linda in the church office or to me, your official "Flower Lady" Kathy Wessling.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions, or concerns. Thanks to all who signed up this past year, and please consider it again for this year. Thanks also to those who donated to the Christmas Flower Fund.

—Kathy Wessling

Notes from Linda

Wow, 2009 has been a tumultuous year, folks being laid off, property values going down, stock market going wacky etc. However, even with all this chaos folks are still willing to give, help out and do the ministry of God without hesitation here at St. Barnabas. What with Dress-a-live-doll, donations to the family service center, donations of food, Rev Patti helping folks in need and lots more that I could say, but then I would take up all the space in this newsletter. My heart whelms up with pride when I see and hear of all the stuff that people do for others even in these hard times. Do you remember the President's motto "Yes, we can"? Well I do and I like it very much because it sends a very positive message and I think we can certainly apply this to Saint Barnabas. So here we go:

Yes, we can make Saint Barnabas greener by making sure we recycle whenever possible and by turning off all the lights when we leave an area.

Yes, we can keep our facilities safe by making sure all doors and windows are locked after church or other events.

Yes, we can become more involved with the different projects, events and committees that help St Barnabas a better place of worship and comradeship.

Yes, we can keep the office informed about those folks who are going to be hospitalized, are sick, need assistance, need a ride to church, need a visit from our rector.

Yes, we can each family recruit one new member to join our church – how awesome would that be if every family (almost 400 of you) decided to make this a personal goal for 2010.

Yes, we can get more folks to volunteer to usher, lector, be a Eucharistic minister, acolyte, be a greeter, and provide coffee on Sunday after the 10 a.m. service. Interested? Please call me. We will provide training.

Yes, we can make a pledge or donation. Every little bit helps to keep our church, beautiful and operational.

Yes, we can remember to say "thank you" to all the wonderful folks who volunteer and give of their precious time.

Yes, we can do more of "Yes we/I can" in the year 2010. What will be your Yes we/I Can?

—Linda Keedwell

Fair raises funds for ECW outreach programs



Thank you from the outgoing senior warden

Thank you! Thank you! Thank you for the opportunity to serve as your senior warden. During transition, I often wrote and spoke about a "Faith Journey." These three years as senior warden of St. Barnabas have, indeed, been a personal faith journey and an extraordinarily powerful spiritual experience for which I need to express to you my appreciation and gratitude.

During the months of the Search process, I renewed and strengthened my belief that "let go, and let God means all the time." As an ex-officio member of the Search Committee, I witnessed discussions and decisions I am convinced were led and blessed by the Holy Spirit. The prayer with which we opened every meeting says it all: "Wise Father, patient Son, ever present Holy Spirit. We the search committee and the members of St. Barnabas come to you open minded, hungry for guidance. Give us the ability to be open collectively to follow the path you have created for us, leading/guiding us to the one you have chosen to lead our parish. We ask all this through the power of the Trinity. Amen." The search journey officially ended on December 1, 2008, when the Vestry voted to extend a call to Rev. Patti Barrett and here we are—one year and a bit later—with Patti and Matt leading us as a parish and as individuals to explore and experience our faith.

Serving as senior warden from January 29, 2007, to January 31, 2010, renewed and strengthened my belief in and commitment to the offertory statement: "All things come from you, O Lord, and of Thine own have we given Thee. How do I thank God for His abundance?" The answer lies in the opportunities embedded in the role of a senior warden acting as a facilitator. You as a parish, a faith community did all the work; my role was to keep the roadway clear for the journey. The milestones of our journey include the celebration of the retirement of a beloved rector after 15 years of service to St. Barnabas; they include the challenges and joys of transition and the logistics of calling and welcoming a new rector, and in the midst of it all, an economic downturn which seriously reduced our endowment principal. I have been an educator for 42 years and a school administrator for 20 years. For three years, the skill sets that support me in these roles proved invaluable in my role as senior warden as facilitator." For this opportunity, I thank you. Blessed be.

—Joyce Harrington

Leadership Directory

Staff

Rector Patricia Barrett
 Curate Matthew Potts
 Organist/Director of Music
 Randolph James
 Parish Admin. Linda Keedwell
 Financial Asst. David Reid
 Sexton Stephen Paltz
 Paul Wimer

Officers and Vestry

Sr. Warden Joyce Harrington
 Jr. Warden Doris Weeks
 Treasurer Don Johnson
 Asst. Treas. Jane Scalli
 Clerk Lois Ferreira
 Ginny Barnes
 Dick Emerson
 Larry Ferreira
 Sandy Good
 Al Kolodziejewski
 Sue O'Brien
 John Schmidt
 Bob Sherwood
 Greg Strohm
 Youth Rep Tim Reichel
 Deanery Marcia Donovan
 Reprs. Mimi Frank
 Helen Gordon
 Peggy Jones
 Nancy Young

Ministries and Group Contacts

Buildings and Grounds (Vestry)
 Memorial Garden Rev. Barrett
 Property Dick Boyden
 Bill Smith
 Historians Jeanne and Bill Platt
 Christian Formation
 Committee Joyce Harrington
 Adult Ed. Joyce Harrington
 Church School Cynthia Ogden
 Youth Group Matthew Potts
 Librarian Mary Heard

Coffee Hour Cindy Gallo
 ECM Bill Platt
 ECW Cynthia Ogden

Finance (Vestry)
 Finance Bill Smith
 Stewardship Brad Barnes
 Sue Davis

Inreach/Outreach (Vestry)

Banner communications@stbarnabasfalmouth.org
 Hospitality ECW Board members
 Welcoming Delle Moore

Outreach (Open)
 Overnights of Hospitality
 Annie Holden
 Prayer Shawl Ingrid Frank
 Sunshine Notes ECW

Pastoral Care

Hospital visits/Home visits on request
 Rev. Barrett
 Lay Eucharistic Visitors
 Rev. Barrett
 Prayer Chain Susan Schmidt

Strategic Planning (Vestry)
 Committee Paul Gentile

Worship

Acolytes Sue O'Brien
 Altar Guild Jean Davis Taft
 Donna Lynds
 Flowers Kathy Wessling
 Lectors Mimi Frank
 Lay Eucharistic Ministers
 Mimi Frank
 Music/Choirs Randolph James
 Ushers Doris Weeks



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Websites of Interest

Our Parish Web site
www.stbarnabasfalmouth.org
*(Check the online calendar
for the latest on events.)*

Cape & Islands Deanery
www.capeislandsdeanery.org

Diocese of Massachusetts
www.diomass.org

The Episcopal Church
www.episcopalchurch.org

The Anglican Communion
www.anglicancommunion.org



*The scene outside the Chapel after
December's 20-inch snowfall.*