

St. Bartholomew's High Springs

St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church, P.O. Box 906, High Springs, FL 32655

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October 2019 Vol. X Issue 10

Vicar's Message

Grace, peace, and the love of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

Fall is here and there is so much to celebrate as Christians in the family of St. Bartholomew's! Thanks to God we have survived the summer with successes in our VBS program, mission camp, and Camp Weed programs for our youth. Our attendance over the summer and the generous giving sustained our ministry and also the Diocese, and our local community. Our family St. Bart's celebration in August was probably one of our most attended not to mention fun-filled family events of the year. There are many blessings we receive when our desire to serve and be an active part of the St. Bart's family becomes our primary focus.

Jesus makes it very clear that the first and great commandment is to love our God with all that we are and have. When a congregation of worshipers come together with that purpose in mind the church generates energy. Energy is what powers our work and overcomes the obstacles that are constantly challenging our work. John Paul Jones, revolutionary captain, stated that he would have nothing to do with a ship that could not sail fast for he intended to go in harm's way. He understood the concept of energy not only in the ship he was sailing but also in the crew of the ship. His successes are recorded in history.

I often hear of the concern that we are an aging church. Maybe the wood is aging. I have gone past the senior citizen age but thanks to God my energy level grows with my excitement to serve my Lord in serving you. I love to hear the Gospel story and the stories of the Saints that have gone before who were set on fire with the energy to serve. Every Sunday one of the first things I do in the Sanctuary is to refuel the altar candles given in love by two saints of our church family. Candles tell a true fact, as the fuel level goes down so does the brightness of the candle until finally there is no light. The whole evolution reminds me that if I fail to fuel my soul by loving and serving my Lord that the light of my candle will also in time cease to exist. It takes energy to make energy but energy so used becomes synergistic making more than what was used! The message is simple: increase your desire to serve God and your energy level will increase, and your light will shine brighter showing the way to eternal life with our Lord in that happy place known as God's Kingdom. There are many opportunities to fuel your spiritual life at St. Bart's and increase your energy level for the work of Christ. It takes energy to make that commitment but I promise you that your energy spent for the Lord will result and an overflowing abundance of energy that will bring purpose, satisfaction, happiness, and most importantly it will bring Eternal Life.

Have a great October and I am excited to be seeing you on Sunday. Let's increase our energy together!
Much love in Christ, fr. lance

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We hope you are enjoying the Newsletter and we **welcome** your comments and suggestions.

Deadline for next issue is October 13th. I know that is early but your editor will be out of town the end of the month.

Contact: Annette Jones - (386) 454-8585 pgrscoot97@aol.com

This month we have included quotes from various people and then verses from the Bible following similar themes.



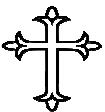
“Each person on this planet is here for a purpose...That purpose is to care for other people and to help this world become a better place through service to others.”

~Gary Sinise, whose foundation serves veterans

Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ.

~Galatians 6:2

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Mew-sings from the Senior Warden...Carol Griffin 386- 497-2292 cgriffin@aol.com

Next month we start working on the 2020 Budget and Pledge Cards. Year-to-Date we have had a very good year at St. Bart's financially. This is due to a number of factors; new members, the challenge at the start of the year to "dig deeper", an increase in the YTD totals for Fundraisers (really this year they have been **FUN**raisers – with more to come!), and unfortunately some of the increase in income was a result of the loss of a number of our members. They were remembered by loved ones with some generous gifts to St. Bart's.

We have challenges to face in 2020 which will require us to all look into our hearts and continue to support our church. As Fr. Lance announced at Church, the National Church is asking for an increase in our annual pledge from 10% to 15% in 2020. Based on previous years, that will increase our annual pledge by \$3,000. That is a large amount for a church our size, but I am confident we will be able to meet this obligation. After Fr. Lance's announcement, I told him I was not yet where he was but he had given me a great deal to think about. In reflection on my life, as well as St. Bart's, I was reminded that God is always with us and provides for our needs.

Neil, your Treasurer and I ask for your help this coming year by turning in your 2020 Pledge forms by December 1st. These will be available in the next Newsletter and in the church and Parish Hall by the end of October.

Something to consider: With the change in the 2018 Tax Laws some of you may have found that the higher standard deduction will preclude you from itemizing. For those in the congregation who have reached 70 ½ and need to satisfy the Required Minimum Distributions (RMD) from your IRA accounts a Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD) may be advantageous for you. A Qualified Charitable Distribution from your IRA can benefit **you as well as your Charity**. If you donate directly to a qualified charity (which St. Bart's is), it can be better than a deduction, since it is not reported as income and also satisfies the required minimum distribution. The net effect of doing the QCD is that you end up with the larger standard deduction and also get to exclude the IRA distribution given to charity from your income.

Contact your CPA/Financial Planner or IRA Custodian for details and to see if this could be beneficial for you.

"All things come of thee oh Lord and of thine own have we given thee" (1Chronicles 29:14 KJV)

GODwink

By [SQuire Rushnell](#)

Unexpected Income

By trade Mary Haise was an accountant. Numbers came easy for her.

Still, she was puzzled by one aspect of the church donor form. She got the part about tithing a certain amount to the church each week. Surely the church board needed to know how much they could expect she would commit over the course of the year. It was the little box at the bottom that was new to her. It said, “Check here to tithe unexpected income”.

Unexpected income? Oh, she got it. If she won the lottery, she would commit to give the church its fair share...normally ten percent.

Well, why not? she thought. If she were to come into a nice chunk of “unexpected” cash, why shouldn’t God get His fair share? In a bold stroke, she placed a check mark in the little box. On her drive home, Mary began thinking about the prospects of “unexpected income”. How much income would she like to turn up on her doorstep?

How about fifty grand? Yeah...fifty thousand dollars...that would be nice right about now, with the crunch her finances had been in lately. She could finally buy that condo she had been dreaming about as a retirement home. Pulling into her driveway, Mary made a strong affirmative statement. “Okay God, I am asking you for fifty thousand dollars in “unexpected income”.

Exactly three days later, Mary’s Godwink arrived. Ripping through her daily stack of mail, Mary opened a routine statement from her brokerage firm. Its contents shocked her. “Oh!” she gasped, then audibly inhaling, stared wide-eyed at the statement.

The brokers reported that stock, which had been in her father’s, will, previously worth pennies, had suddenly exploded. The paper in front of her reported a value of \$50,000. *Exactly.*

Mary felt gratitude and euphoria the following Sunday when she wrote a check for \$5,000, fulfilling her 10 percent promise. She slipped it into the offering basket at church, laughing to herself as she wrote at the bottom, tithing of unexpected income”.

But confirmation that God is truly the author of all blessings came during the service when Pastor Victoria Etchemendy announced that the church building fund was running short. “We need an additional \$5,000 for our Sunday school space”, said Victoria, not yet aware of Mary’s envelope in the offering.

Perhaps it was Mary’s imagination, but that morning everything around her seemed to shine with an unusual brightness.

From Squire Rushnell’s book [When GOD Winks at YOU](#) (How God Speaks Directly to You Through the Power of Coincidence)

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"You are loved by a God who delights in you and calls you good not because of what you've done but because of who you are."

~Lisa-Jo Baker, author



The Lord appeared to us in the past saying, "I have loved you with an everlasting love. I have drawn you with unfailing kindness.

~ Jeremiah 31:3

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October Birthdays

Oct 2 – Samantha Shiver	9 – Kalynn Matisco
3 – Daryl Brewer	10 – Neil Boyle
5 – Alex Matisco	25 – Camden Treese
6 – Debra Wright	30 – Jason Dennis
8 – Richard Swann	30 -- Gail Dispenza

Anniversaries in October



10 -- Lee & George Forzley
17 – Gail & Peter Dispenza

Congratulations to Each of YOU! If your name does not appear here, please contact your editor to have it added.

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"If your life is off-key, maybe it's because you've been deafened by the negative self-talk that doesn't let God get a word in edgewise."

~Mark Batterson, author

Cast all your anxiety on him, because he cares for you.

~1 Peter 5:7

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Scripture Lessons for October 2022

Oct 6th: Habakkuk 1:1-4,2:1-4; Psalm 37:1-10; 2 Timothy 1:1-14; Luke 17:5-10

13th: 2 Kings 5:1-3,7-15c; Psalm 111; 2 Timothy 2:8-15; Luke 17:11-19

20th: Genesis 32:22-31; Psalm 121; 2 Timothy 3:14—4:5; Luke 18:1-8

27th: Jeremiah 14:(1-6)7-10; Psalm 84:1-6; 2 Timothy 4:6-8,16-18; Luke 18:9-14

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“No story sits by itself. Our lives connect like threads on a loom, interwoven in ways we never realize.”

~Mitch Albom, author



I want you woven into a tapestry of love, in touch with everything there is to know of God. Then you will have minds confident and at rest, focused on Christ, God's great mystery.

~Colossians 2:2



SAVE THE DATE!



WHAT: Oktoberfest

WHEN: October 19, 2019 6:00 – 8:30

WHERE: St. Bartholomew's Parrish Hall

Suggested Donation: \$12.00

Our next event is fast approaching. Tickets will be on sale through Sunday October 13th or until we sell out. Seating is limited and based on last year it is suggested you get your tickets early. Please see Carol Griffin at the 8:00 service for your tickets or Neil Boyle at the 10:00 service for your tickets.

Thank you for supporting St. Bartholomew's and come enjoy some good food, entertainment and fellowship.



Chalice Bearers - October

10/6 - Annette



Lay Readers - October

10/6- Debra Wright

10/13 - Gregg

10/13 - Beth Treese

10/20 - Neil

10/20 - Margaret Palmer

10/27 - cherie

10/27 - Alex Matisco



Episcopal Edibles



English Pea Salad

Perfect for our Potlucks

Ingredients:

$\frac{3}{4}$ c. apple cider vinegar
1 c. sugar
 $\frac{1}{2}$ c. vegetable oil
1 tsp. pepper
1 c. celery, chopped fine

- 1 bunch green onions, including tops, chopped fine
- 1 (16 oz) French cut green beans
- 1 (16 oz) can baby peas
- 1 (12 oz) can shoe peg white corn
- 1 jar diced pimentos

Directions:

Mix the vinegar, sugar, oil and pepper in saucepan. Bring to a boil. Remove and cool to room temperature. Drain beans, peas, and corn, add to onions, bell peppers and celery. Pour dressing over vegetables and marinate at least 8 hours. Makes 1½ quarts. Keeps well for 2 weeks or more in refrigerator.



“To love our neighbors as ourselves means to see that we are worth loving, and those around us are too.

~Jonathon Merritt, author

If you really fulfill the royal law according to the Scripture, “You shall love your neighbor as yourself,” you are doing well.

~James 2:8



KUDOS

Art Moegenberg arranged a special birthday Party for wife Alma at Ayers Rehabilitation Facility in Trenton to celebrate her 89th Birthday on September 8th.

Picture from the Gilchrist County Journal Newspaper



Youth Activities and Family Fellowship



Sunday School Teaching Schedule for 10am Services:

Oct. 6th:

Sam
Sheryl

Oct. 13th:

Ben
Michelle

Oct. 20th:

Ben
Sam

Oct. 27th:

Cherie
Cornelia

Upcoming Children & Youth Events:

~ Wed. Oct. 2nd at 7pm: Youth Group Meeting

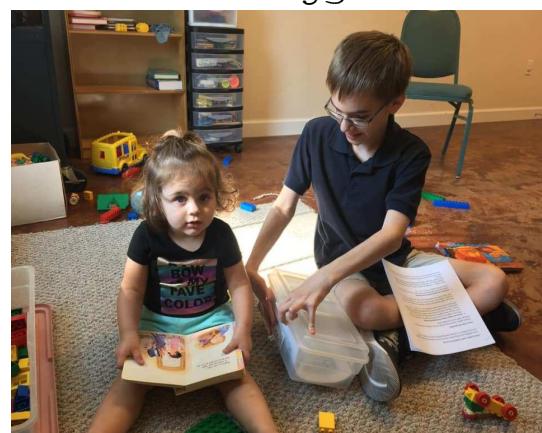
~ Wed. Oct. 9th at 7pm: Youth Group Meeting

~ Wed. Oct. 16th at 7pm: Youth Group Meeting

~ Wed. Oct. 23rd at 7pm: Youth Group Meeting

~ Wed. Oct. 30th at 6pm: Staff Planning Meeting
7pm: Youth Group Meeting

Caden teaching Jenna in the nursery



<-The first Youth lesson of this school year

As your designated administrator for Safeguarding God's Children & People, please contact me through email at harrischerie@rocketmail.com or by phone at 352-234-0969 for more information or to get your account set up.

In the Diocese of Florida, the following people are **required** to attend one or both Safeguarding classes and renew their certification every 5 years. Please note: these lists may not include every position (paid or unpaid):

Mandatory attendance of both Safeguarding God's Children & Safeguarding God's People:

All clergy canonical or licensed to function in the Diocese of Florida. All employees of the Church or Church Agency within 30 days of employment. Any person acting in a supervisory capacity: (i.e., Program Directors – Choral, Music, Youth, Pastoral Care, Day School Teachers, Sunday School Teachers, Teacher's Aides, Maintenance Workers, Acolyte Coordinators)

Mandatory attendance of Safeguarding God's People:

All employees/volunteers (including clergy) serving in a supervisory capacity: (i.e., Adult Christian Formation, Pastoral Care Ministries, Visitation Ministry, Eucharistic Visitors, Stephen Ministry)

Mandatory attendance of Safeguarding God's Children:

All employees/volunteers (including clergy) who have interaction with children and youth: (i.e., Sunday School Teachers, Day School Teachers, Superintendents, Youth Group Leaders/Volunteers/Sponsors, Church Nursery Directors, Nursery Workers, Acolytes, Children's Choir Directors)

Thank you,
Cherie Harris

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Hostess List for October



Oct 6 – Pot luck

Oct 13 – Cornelia/ Ruthann

Oct 20 – Lisa/ Sharon P

Oct 27 – Nancy/ Sheryl S

Note: If you would like to volunteer to provide a light snack and drink, please contact Nancy Brewer 386-496-3445.



THANKSGIVING BASKET PROJECT 2019

Submitted by Rosina Dennis

Once again, it is time to start organizing the collection of foods for the Thanksgiving Baskets. Ideally, I'd like us to be able to offer 20-25 baskets for the needy in High Springs and surrounding areas. I will have these distributed by the Fire Department and I'm also going to check with the H.S. Police Department as well, and if anyone from the church knows of someone in need. The list goes as follows for the products in the baskets:

20-25 boxes instant mashed potatoes

20-25 packages of stuffing mix

100 cans of vegetables- (green beans, corn, peas, carrots, spinach etc...)

20-25 packages of instant gravy mix

20-25 cans pumpkin for pies

20-25 packages of pie crust mix

20-25 cans cranberry sauce

40-50 packages Jiffy Corn Bread mix

20-25 gift cards for (average \$10 to buy meat at .69 cents a pound)

This has been a success for two years in a row thanks to the generous donations of the members of St. Bartholomew's Church, and is greatly appreciated in the High Springs Community. I'm hoping for another year of making these Thanksgiving Baskets to help eliminate hunger while enabling a family to celebrate this holiday of being thankful. Please help make this possible again this year!



This couple is dedicated to St. Bart's and to its many aspects of worship and activities. He helps with the mowing of the grass and keeps our finances in order and she has become part of our Altar Guild. We are all blessed to have them as "angels" among us

Our Angels without Wings for this month are.... *Neil and Susan Boyle*

