



# St. Barnabas Episcopal Church

## November 2017 Newsletter

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Dear Friends,

I write this on the Feast of All Saints. I'm a little hung over from all the chocolate I ate last night. Although we had quite a successful Trick-or-Treat night, we shut down about 8:30pm, and the leftovers called to me until I caved. Lucky for me, Wanda will take the rest to school to pass out to teachers and students. At this point, better them than me.

This Sunday, we will celebrate the Feast of All Saints in our Eucharist. We will remember those on whose shoulders we stand. While we won't be able to name them all, we recall their lives, their work, and their messages to us who come after them. Whether it's the prophets and heroes of the Hebrew Scriptures or the Apostles and Saints of the 1<sup>st</sup> Millennium, we will celebrate the faith that they passed along. So much of what we do daily & weekly is a direct result of their lives. The Eucharist itself was developed by those who held onto and repeated the words of Jesus, "Do this in remembrance of me." The Apostles claimed the words of Isaiah who said, "The spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me, because the LORD has anointed me; he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed, to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and release to the prisoners; to proclaim the year of the LORD's favor," They carried these ideas forward.

I believe that our lives are given to us for the same purpose. We are to coax life and joy out of a world too often given over to cynicism and greed. We are to claim the hope of Abraham, the tenacity of Esther & Ruth, the truth telling of Isaiah and the prophets, the joy of Jesus, the imaginations of the Apostles, and the courage of Martin Luther King, Jr. We claim the sacrifice of martyrs, the vision of scientists, and the

inspiration of artists. We claim and celebrate them all, because we realize that our lives have been enlivened and enriched by them.

On Sunday, we will also celebrate the Feast of All Souls. In that Feast, we remember those who have lived more quietly, those whose names haven't been recorded in books. Because, "these also were godly men, whose righteous deeds have not been forgotten; their wealth will remain with their descendants, and their inheritance with their children's children." These are folk like you and me. They also looked toward God and the servants of God who inspire us and call us to more than we thought was possible or more than what we have become. These are our mothers, fathers, children, partners, ancestors, teachers, friends, and personal heroes who have gone before us. These are they who made us better. They coaxed life and joy out of us when we thought neither was possible.

My hope as I approach the Feasts of All Saints and All Souls is that I will claim what they gave. My hope is that I will honor them by carrying on what they eventually had to lay down. My hope is that I can refuse to settle into my "better them than me" post Halloween hangover. My hope is that I continue to do all this in remembrance of Christ and continue to bring good news to the oppressed, to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and release to the prisoners. My hope is that we all claim this and carry it on for those who are with us today and those who will come after us tomorrow. Please know that I remain...

Your Friend in Christ,

Randall+

**Community Prayer List** – Rev. Lyn Stabler-Tippett and the congregation at Trinity Church in Mt. Airy, the family of Bobby Smith, Tracy Grant, Bill Myers, Imogene Long, Bo Butler, Kristin Best, Kelley Rich, Gene Queen & family, Louis Canino, Randy Neustel, LaVerne Tooley, Roger McFarland, Elizabeth Clark, Kari Foote, Anne & Bill Williams, James Robert Allen, Holly Ackerman, Tony Lynch, Herbert Menendez, Eugene Finocchi, Kate, Maria De Jesus, Ann Fincke, Judy Brown, Frances Foote, James Hoots, Christopher Wolfe, George, Walter, Evelin, & Alex, Bob Donaghy, Debbie Felker, Jennie Johnson, Bonnie Pruitt, Linda Lewis, Carolyn McLean, Davilynn & Bill Furlow, Marvin Aycock, Peggy Reeve, Rose Mertz. For those who have died: Bobby Smith, Aura Marina.

### **Thanks for Sanctuary Support**

It would be impossible to overstate our thanks for your support of Juana and her family. While St. Barnabas can never be her home, you have made her time here much more pleasant. Whether you are staying with Juana, greeting her and her family warmly on Sundays, providing a special meal for them, bringing games, calling your legislators, or simply keeping them all in your prayers, you are making a difference. Please do keep it up.

If you haven't had the opportunity to stay with her for a few hours, please speak with Deacon Leslie. Although some might see this as a one-sided case of our providing her hospitality, she doesn't. She welcomes everyone who comes to be here with her during the week as a friend in her own home. If you want to experience what grace and compassion looks like, come by and visit.

### **Gene Finocchi & Bishop Sam**

Thanks to all of you who were able to come for Bishop Sam's first visit. You all did yourselves proud. Bishop Sam preached a wonderful sermon using Juana's Sanctuary as an example of the Gospel in action. Also, Eugene Finocchi was received in The Episcopal Church during the service. For the occasion, Eugene found his 1<sup>st</sup> Communion Certificate that we signed for him about 75 years ago. Bishop Sam added his name to that precious document.

### **North Greensboro Mission Corridor**

For about 6 months, Mary Lee Rembert, Deacon Leslie, and Father Randall have been meeting with representatives from The Church of the Holy Spirit, St. Francis Episcopal Church, and the Diocese. We were brainstorming about a new ministry of cooperation among Holy Spirit, St. Francis and St. Barnabas. It looks like this is about to get off the ground. Canon Earnest Graham, Bishop Anne, and Audra Abt have been guiding us through the process. Beginning about now, we will be introducing the idea to our wider congregations. The "Corridor" or "Ministry Hub" will be an effort of these three congregations coming together for the support and development of one another's ministries. Rev. Audra Abt will be here on November 19 to preach and preside at both services and lead our Sunday conversation at 9:30am. She will teach us about this exciting project.

### **November Will Be Special**

Father Randall will be having his second ankle replacement on November 15 at Duke. As a consequence, he will be out of commission for a while. But, St. Barnabas will not! On the three Sundays after his surgery, our services will look like this:

**November 19<sup>th</sup>** – The Rev. Audra Abt will preach and preside. She will be telling us about the North Greensboro Mission Corridor which she will be helping us organize. Do come and hear what she has to say.

**November 26<sup>th</sup>** – Father Jim Prevatt will preach and preside. As it is the Sunday after Thanksgiving, please do come if you can. So many people are out of town or hosting friends and family over this weekend, that churches find themselves pretty sparsely populated. Come keep Father Jim company.

**December 3<sup>rd</sup>** - Elizabeth and Julio Alvarenga will present Julian for Baptism on this, the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent. Father Jim will preach & preside. Father Randall will come out on the famous knee scooter and help with the Baptism. It will be a wonderful day!

## Las Posadas

### **Advent I: December 13 at 6:00pm**

Las Posadas is a Latin American tradition celebrated in the weeks leading up to Christmas. Typically celebrated in neighborhoods and homes, we remember the Holy Family's search for and need of sanctuary in Bethlehem at the time of Christ's birth. What happens is people gather and process around an area or neighborhood, knocking on (prearranged) doors where they are turned away, until they come to the host household, where they are welcomed in the name of God. There is then a service of songs, brief Scripture readings and reflections, and Advent/Christmas carols sung with bilingual gusto. Then potluck and fellowship. It'll be Great!!

## Current Pledges

If you are behind on your pledge to our church, it would be greatly appreciated if you would try your best to catch up as soon as possible. At the end of the third quarter, pledge payments were more than \$10,000 behind the amount that had been pledged. Consequently, the church is currently financially strapped.

Please help if you can.

Thanks,  
Jack Alford  
Your Treasurer

## 2018 Pledge Campaign

It's All Saints Day as I write this short note to remind you of another great annual event in our life together. As scary as Halloween? Just ask Jack Alford, our Treasurer. That's right, it's time for the annual Stewardship Drive! Will we have enough to make it safely through 2018? With your help, we will. That means you! Much more information will be coming very shortly.

Tony Davies  
Pledge Campaign Chairperson

## Haiti Teachers

We are still looking for additional "angels" to help support two teachers in the school in Haiti who we have been sponsoring for several years. As you all are aware, Haiti has very limited resources (and they seem to decrease every year). With the recent disasters there, they surely need our help even more. Education is a way for children to grow beyond their current circumstances, and as they grow, help move their community to greater prosperity. Would you like to be a part of this process? There are several of us who have been giving \$5 per week for this worthy effort. If you feel you can't do that, could you do some other amount - maybe \$1 per week or \$5 per month, however it works best for you. Please do some thinking about this and if you have questions, contact me at church or call me ([336-202-0851](tel:336-202-0851)). Be an "angel".

Thanks,  
Mary Lee Rembert



**Third Annual Cookie Walk**  
**Saturday, December 9, 2017**  
**10:00 AM – 1:00 PM**  
**St. Barnabas Parish Hall**

### **Enjoy Music by Triad Early Music Society**

Ladies and Gents start looking for your best cookie recipes. and let's make this year's Cookie Walk the best yet.

It is a wonderful opportunity to enjoy the Christmas spirit and to purchase delicious cookies to give as gifts for neighbors and friends or for the family to enjoy.

## **Attractions** Dining and Value Guide

We have a few "Attractions" coupon books available. The cost is \$25. Numerous restaurants offer \$10 to \$15 coupons and there are also hundreds of fast food "buy one, get one free" coupons. Perhaps the most popular coupons are from Ace Hardware (which are redeemable at Home Depot and Lowe's).

### **Food Donations**

The One Step Further food pantry at The Servant Center continues to try to meet the growing needs of the community, especially with children and young people still on summer vacation. Also, The Servant Center Shelter Kitchen is now feeding 21 disabled veterans. One Step Further food pantry needs remain the same: protein sources, canned vegetables and fruits, rice, oatmeal and macaroni & cheese.

*Thanks to everyone for your continued support and to those who help in delivering our food donations each week.*



### **November Birthdays**

3<sup>rd</sup> – Frank Maisano  
15<sup>th</sup> – Mary Lee Rembert  
23<sup>rd</sup> – Betty Priestley

### **Parish Directory Update**

Bill & Ann Fincke  
(email change & no land line)  
(cell) 336-207-7397  
[billfinckenc@gmail.com](mailto:billfinckenc@gmail.com)

*If you are new to St. Barnabas and would like to be included in future updates, please contact the office at (336) 294-1282 or by email: [stbarnabasgreensboro@gmail.com](mailto:stbarnabasgreensboro@gmail.com) with complete information (address, phone #, email address, birthdays, anniversary, etc). Thanks!*