

### Reflections from the Rector:

### **Rediscovering Sabbath in Every Season**

Where has the summer gone?

As I write this, school has already begun for many, teachers have returned to their classrooms, and at St. Bart's, we recently celebrated the Blessing of the Backpacks. July seemed to pass in a blink. Like many of you, my family and I were grateful for some time together this summer — a true blessing.

Still, I find myself longing for a few more slow, quiet days. It feels as though I have not yet had enough time to rest, replenish, and renew. And yet, rest should not be limited to the summer months. The invitation to pause and be restored is always present, if we are willing to receive it.

Sabbath rest is a sacred gift — rooted in the very beginning of Creation. After God brought all things into being and called them good, God rested on the seventh day and made it holy. That divine rhythm of work and rest is not simply a model; it is a calling. We, too, are invited to rest — not only from our labor, but from our striving, our need to control, to acquire, and to constantly be doing.

True Sabbath is not about checking out, but about tuning in: to God's presence, to the sacredness of the moment, and to the grace of simply being. Abraham Joshua Heschel described the Sabbath as "a sanctuary in time," where "the goal is not to have but to be, not to own but to give, not to control but to share, not to subdue but to be in accord."

Especially in times of anxiety and division, Sabbath rest becomes even more essential. It reminds us where our true hope lies — not in our own efforts, but in the merciful hands of God. Hands that tenderly hold us. Hands that call us beloved.

So, as we enter the fullness of this new season — whether it is the school year, the program year, or simply another chapter of life — may each of us find moments to step back, breathe deeply, and be still in the presence of God. Honor the Sabbath. Reclaim rest. Abide in Christ.

Blessings, Joseph+

P.S. You are warmly invited to join us for quiet, contemplative Centering Prayer gatherings — Sundays at 8:30 a.m. and our new time on Fridays at 10:00 a.m. in the Chapel of the David Thompson Ministry Center.



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### Senior Warden's Corner

This summer has seen our congregation active as ever! To all who contributed to making the July 4<sup>th</sup> BBQ a success we offer an enormous thank you – it was a record setting (and delicious) event! In July we also held the annual vestry retreat and amongst other topics we discussed our vision for the church as well as vestry operations. To that end we are planning ways to ensure our work is communicated clearly and if anyone ever has topics they would like addressed, please reach out to myself or other vestry members. You are also welcome to observe the vestry meetings. Coming up in August we will have many chances to fellowship together as we celebrate St. Bart's Weekend – it's a great chance for all of us to become better acquainted so please join in as you're able.

Jackie Raeth

### 2025 Vestry

Jackie Raeth ---- Sr. Warden
Bobbie Quinn ---- Jr. Warden
Zeny Vo ---- Treasurer
Kathy Ives ---- Secretary

John DoughtyCharles DuchscherJoyce FeenstraMaryAnne GoodBarb McCallMary Beth Pierucci

Lisa Russ



We invite you to purchase altar flowers in *Loving Memory of* or in *Thanksgiving of*, by signing up for a Sunday in the Flower Book, located in the Narthex. or by contacting *Janice at admin@saintbart.org*. The cost is \$45 and may be paid by cash or check, earmarked "altar flowers" in the Sunday collection, or by text-to-give: Text SAINTBART Flowers \$45 to 73256 using your text messaging. Standard rates do apply.

### St. Bartholomew's Vision Statement

God has called us to be a diverse community where all may encounter God's love. God strengthens and nourishes us through the sacraments and speaks to us through scripture, tradition, and reason.

Our worship services are fully accessible in person and online, supported by a variety of music, good sermons, and relevant teaching. We provide a unique mix of the traditional and contemporary in both music and liturgy.

We strive, with God's help, to serve all who hunger for the unconditional love of Jesus Christ, spiritually, physically, and emotionally.

All have a place here.

- St. Bartholomew's Vision Statement Adopted by the Mission Committee on May 21, 2023

### "Growing Together: Endowment Campaign Update"

This past May, we gathered to relaunch the St. Bartholomew's Endowment Fund — a celebration of our past, and a bold step into our future. Since then, your generosity has already made a meaningful impact.

We are thrilled to share that, as of this month, we have received \$10,500 in gifts to the Endowment. Thanks to

an anonymous challenge grant, every dollar given so far has been matched bringing our campaign total to \$21,000.

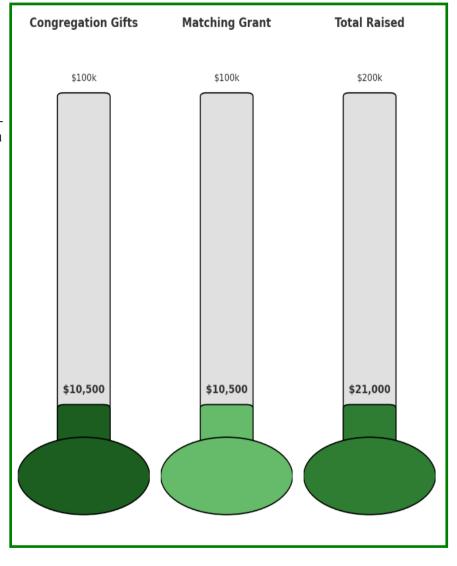
The goal is ambitious: to raise \$200,000 by December 31<sup>st</sup>. Half of that will come directly from our church family, and the other half through this generous matching opportunity. Every gift — large or small is doubled, up to \$100,000. That means a \$500 gift becomes \$1,000. A \$5,000 gift becomes \$10,000.

Why an endowment? Because it allows us to say "yes" when the budget says "not yet." It provides for building emergencies, supports new ministries, and ensures we can respond boldly when the Spirit calls. Unlike our annual pledge, Endowment gifts are invested for the long-term. They protect, strengthen, and equip our church for the generations to come.

If you've already contributed, thank you. If you haven't yet, we invite you to prayerfully consider joining this effort. You can give by check with "Endowment" in the memo line, or contact the office about giving appreciated stock or including the Endowment in your estate plan.

We're just getting started — but together, we're planting something that will last.

Let's keep growing.





### Missed the Sermon? Listen Anytime!

Each week's sermon is now available as a podcast! Visit: https://pod.link/1826528509 or scan the QR code to listen on your favorite app.





# August Ministry of the Month: Casseroles for Christ

### CASSEROLE'S FOR CHRIST are due on Sunday, August 17th

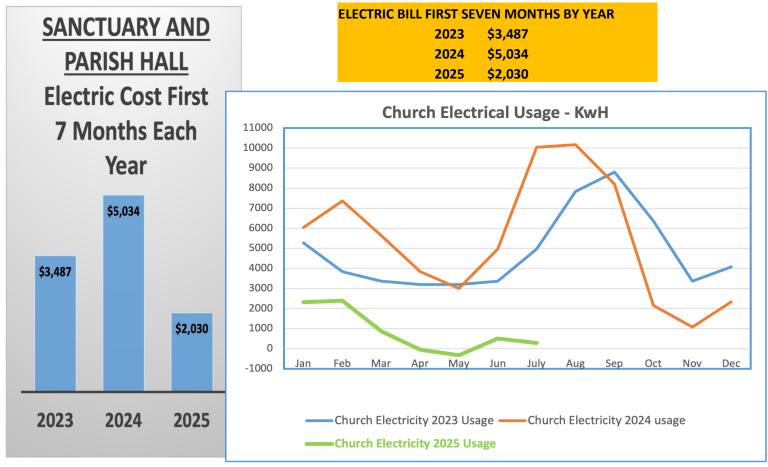
Please put casseroles in the Walking Tall freezer in the Parish Hall and help feed someone a good, hot meal! Pans are provided on the table in the Parish Hall as well as Crock Pot recipes for casseroles to "beat the summer heat". Because the kids are out of school for the summer, any left-overs/extras that Walking Tall receives will be used to feed the community. The casseroles will be delivered to Walking Tall Ministries on Monday, June 30th. For more information: contact Dee McLane at 864-323-7552 or <a href="mailto:lmclane@wqu.edu">lmclane@wqu.edu</a>

### Good News on Energy Stewardship!

We're delighted to share some encouraging news about our ongoing efforts to care for both creation and our church's resources. Thanks to several recent improvements, we've significantly reduced our energy consumption—and with it, our electric bills!

First, we installed solar panels, allowing us to harness clean, renewable energy from the sun. Then, when our old Sanctuary HVAC units failed beyond repair, we replaced them with newer, far more efficient systems. Finally, a bit of detective work led to the discovery of a faulty relay that kept the choir's supplemental cooling unit running continuously—even when the thermostat was off. With that issue fixed, we've seen a notable drop in usage.

These steps reflect our commitment to faithful stewardship and sustainability. Thank you to all who support these efforts, and let us continue to care for God's creation together!



### SAINT BARTHOLOMEW'S WEEKEND



### FRIDAY NIGHT - August 22<sup>nd</sup> - 6:30 pm Back to the 50's night - SOCK HOP

- ★ Twist again with our DJ Chuck
- ♣ Come and Dance OR Just Sit and Enjoy the Fun & Fellowship
  - **♣** 50's DRESS OPTIONAL BUT ENCOURAGED!





St. Bartholomew T-SHIRTS - CLEARANCE SALE! \$1 OFF on purchase of ONE shirt. \$2 OFF EACH on purchase of TWO shirts

Contact Barb McCall to get yours ~ in the Parish Hall following service or call Barb at: 803-599-1116 or email: barbmccall1947@gmail.com
Show Your Church Pride & Wear Your T-Shirts to the GreenJackets Game

2025 SAINT BARTHOLOMEW'S WEEKEND Aug 22, 23, & 24



VS

### TAKING RESERVATIONS NOW - MONEY DUE AUGUST 4TH

We have reserved 50 Tickets @ \$12/each for Saturday Aug 23rd Ballgame between the Greenjackets & the Columbia Fireflies
This is also a Fireworks night \*(includes \$2 coupon off concessions)

**SIGN UP SHEET IN PARISH HALL** 

### STEWARDSHIP AT WORK

"Whatever I thankfully receive as a token of God's love to me, I part with contentedly as a taken of my love to Him."

Theophilus Gale

Year to Date receipts through June 2025:

|        | OPERATING FUND |               |              |
|--------|----------------|---------------|--------------|
|        | Actual         | Need          | Difference   |
| Pledge | \$ 131,241.15  | \$ 140,042.24 | \$ -8,801.09 |
| Other  | \$ 13,481.07   | \$ 7,971.53   | \$ 5,809.54  |
| ΓΟΤΑL  | \$ 145,022.22  | \$ 148,013.77 | \$ -2,991.55 |

If you are a member who has not pledged, please consider doing so. Just contact the church office, get a pledge card, and drop it in the offering plate. Pledges are welcome at any time during the year.



### A Wish and a Prayer

When you wish upon a birthday candle, God hears it as a prayer. These dreams of your heart ascend to His heart, where they ignite in hope. Hope for happy days ahead, for making more good memories. Hope for loved ones coming together, sharing smiles and stories and hugs. For reasons to celebrate – big and small – and for joy upon joy. Each candle, like each year of your

life, represents God's faithful care for you. He is always working things together for your good, bringing you more grace, making your hopes and dreams come true.

### **AUGUST BIRTHDAYS**

- 1 Kvle Waddell
- 5 Carla Bouchard
- 7 Cathy Sligh
- 7 Teresa Thirkell
- 12 Hinton Wells
- 21 Marcia Godfrey
- 24 Jessica Jones
- 25 Andy Driver
- 31 Darren Waters



AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES
19 Jim & Shari Scott
25 Khoi Vo & Zeny Vo



### In Remembrance:

Jackson Sheppard

Aug 12, 2005 - June 5, 2025

Cíndy Owens

Nov 21, 1064 - July 15, 2025

Please continue to hold their families up in prayer!

### Pastoral Emergencies

All pastoral concerns including:

hospitalizations, illnesses, deaths, child concerns, or relationship issues may go directly to Father Joseph via his secured email at <a href="mailto:priest@saintbart.org">priest@saintbart.org</a> or by phone at 803-279-4622.

All concerns will be held in the strictest of confidence.

### **Episcopal Youth Community News**

\* The Youth Group will meet Sunday evenings at 4:30 p.m. for Confirmation Class followed by Episcopal Youth Meeting at 5:00 p.m.



### Holiday House Market — Nov 8, 2025 It's not to early to be thinking about our Holiday Market!

For those who are new to St. Bart's, this is one of our fund raisers for our outreach programs. In order to be successful, we need everyone's participation. You ask:... "HOW CAN I HELP?"

We are already looking for donations for our silent auction, contributing bake goods for our bake sale table, volunteering in the kitchen, help set up or clean up.

We serve breakfast & lunch. We will need breakfast casseroles made. If you know someone who can make a donation for our silent auction, please text Debra at 803-215-7777. If you have something new that you know you will not use, we can use it in the auction too.

We are also looking for outside venders. You can help by spreading the word. For \$40.00 they get a space for a 6 foot table. Potential venders can text Debra at 803-215-7777 to reserve a space.

### Kay Bryden Brown Bag Ministry

Continued appreciation to all those supporting the Brown Bag program. The residents of The Ledges look forward to receiving their now monthly brown bags which became a reality thanks to the participation of Sweetwater Baptist who gives on the alternating months. In September - Brown Bag will be the Ministry of the Month. Watch next month's Scroll for items to donate.

### EpiscoPals Lunch

The EpiscoPals is a monthly luncheon gathering for Adults 50+. It is a fun, relaxed time of fellowship and to eat good food! We meet for lunch on the **3rd Thursday** of each month in a different location. For some good food and a whole lot of talking, make plans to join us:

August 21st - Bonefish Grill at 2911 Washington Rd., Augusta at 11:30.

Sign up Sheets will be in the Parish Hall

For more information contact Mike Osteen at <u>803-315-3549</u>



### Health Ministry Screenings will be on the SECOND SUNDAY August 10<sup>th</sup> from 9:30 am to 11:30 am in the Parish Hall.

During this time, you can have your blood pressure, blood glucose and weight checked, as well as ask general health questions.

For any questions, contact Robin Petry, 706-836-3027 or petrymail@yahoo.com.

### BLT (BAZAAR CRAFTERS) - will meet on August 19th

The BLT's meet on the **Third Tuesdays at 10:00 AM** in the BLT room on the bottom floor of the David Thompson Ministry Center (Admin Bldg) at the top of the hill. All adults are invited to join for fellowship and craft-making followed by lunch. Crafts will be sold during the Holiday Bazaar and the funds raised from this ministry support local missions.

We hope to see you there.





### SUNDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

9:00 A.M. Sunday School 10:00 A.M. Holy Eucharist Rite II 10:00 A.M. Live Streaming to Facebook & YouTube 11:00 A.M. Coffee Hour in Parish Hall

#### Rector

The Rev. Joseph Shippen priest@saintbart.org

### **Deacon**

The Rev. Deacon Pam Crossley deacon@saintbart.org

#### Senior Warden

Jackie Raeth

srwarden@saintbart.org

#### Junior Warden

Bobbie Quinn

jrwarden@saintbart.org

### **Treasurer**

Zeny Vo

finance@saintbart.org

### **Youth Ministry**

AnneMarie MacMurray herbam@bellsouth.net

### **STAFF**

### Organist/Choirmaster

Jessica Dollar Jones

music@saintbart.org

### **Parish Administrator**

Janice Furman

admin@saintbart.org

Church Phone (803) 279-4622 Website www.saintbart.org

Scroll Editor: Janice Furman

Please submit articles by the 20th of the month by e-mail to: admin@saintbart.org

Any suggestions? Submit to same.

Most of us would not consider underwear to be luxury items, but when you are financially challenged and are faced with the choice of buying underwear or food, this is exactly what it becomes.

## Sunday, August 10th

We are collecting women's, men's and children's underwear for families in need. All sizes of new underwear, boxers, briefs, T-shirts, and training pants will be collected for distribution by volunteers at the Byllesby Center in Augusta.

#### NEW CENTERING PRAYER GATHERING - FRIDAYS AT 10:00 A.M.

We are delighted to announce a new weekly offering of **Centering Prayer** at **St. Bart's**. Beginning this month, we will gather every **Friday at 10:00 a.m.** in the **Chapel** located in the **David Thompson Ministry Center**.

Our time together begins with **30 minutes of silent Centering Prayer**, followed by **30 minutes of fellowship and reflection** over **biscotti, tea, and coffee.** All are welcome - whether you are new to the practice or a longtime contemplative.

This new Friday gathering complements our long-standing Centering Prayer group that meets on **Sundays at 8:30 a.m.** in the Chapel, led by the faithful and wise **Sister Linda Elston** from the **Convent of St. Helena** just down the road. That offering will continue as always.

With these two weekly opportunities, we hope to deepen our shared life of prayer and stillness. Come, rest in God's presence with us.

### **LABYRINTH UPDATE**

The Labyrinth Committee has begun working on our new Labyrinth.

The Meadow has been prepared to make it flatter. New sod, pine straw, and an irrigation system have also been installed. Please refrain from walking on the grass while it gets established. Stay tuned this fall for information about installing the stones for our new labyrinth and the landscaping around it.

If you are interested in participating, or would like to know more about this endeavor, please contact Joey Zeller: 803-474-5531 or ojzmail@gmail.com



