



# June Newsletter



## St. Brigid's Episcopal Church

### From Father Bill

In seminary, I had a professor who always talked about human life being both fascinating and interesting because of its "absurdity of belief". He then broke this understanding into two categories: (1.) absurdity within our reality, (2.) absurdity beyond our reality.

Let's deal with the first. As children, we believed in everything about which we were told...the tooth fairy, the Easter bunny, Santa Claus. Personally, I loved believing that a baby could be sent to Earth from a dying planet called Krypton, that under a yellow sun, he would gain great powers, including the power of flight. As children, we lived a "Once Upon a Time" existence. As we reached adolescence, we began to lay aside such beliefs. We began to understand and work within our reality. We lived on the planet Earth, which lies 93,000,000 miles from the sun; we were part of a solar system which contained other planets. Our solar system was one of many in our galaxy alone, and there were many galaxies in the universe. On our planet Earth, we interacted with other creatures, both human and non-human. Some of these creatures were good, others not so good, etc. We might no longer believe in the tooth fairy or the Easter bunny or Superman, but we continued to believe, but perhaps, more scientifically. For example, we believed in gravity. None of us has ever been on the planet Pluto, but we believe that if a hammer were dropped there, it would fall to the surface of that planet. We don't have to actually see this in order to believe. This is the reality in which we live and deal.

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St. Brigid



Volume 22, Issue 6  
May 25, 2017

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### Our Parish at a Glance

Ministers of the Congregation

The People

Rector

The Rev. William Martin

Vestry

Mary Jo Julian, Jen McTighe, Steve Mitchell, Jackie Ellenberger, Howard Potter, Tony Bernardo, Christy Facciponti, Nancy Zerbe, and Christine Konetchy

Sunday Service Hours

Sunday School 9:45 a.m.  
Holy Eucharist 10:00 a.m.  
Organist—Mary Schatkowski

Office Hours

9:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m. Monday—Thursday  
Parish Administrator—Trula Mosher

Our Mission

"To Know, Live, and Share God's Love"

**Service Participation**

If you are interested in participating in our Sunday services as a lector, chalice bearer, usher, or altar guild member, please contact Tony Bernardo.



(continued from front page)

My seminary professor was far more fascinated with absurdity #2 above, the absurdity beyond reality. From the beginning of human existence, humans have believed that there is a god or gods, a someone beyond what we can perceive with our five senses. In 21<sup>st</sup> Century terms, we believe that beyond outer space, beyond what we can see with advanced telescopes and satellites, etc., there is Someone and something more, "heaven" if you will.

We Christians are a special breed, though, in terms of absurdity beyond reality. We believe that a man born 2,000 years ago in the Middle East was both human and divine. We believe that man was beaten and tortured, nailed to a tree, and stabbed by a spear. We believe he died as a result of his injuries, yet didn't stay dead, and now lives forevermore. And because we are attached to him by virtue of our baptisms, we too will live forevermore. This is the central tenet of our faith. Reality insists that dead people stay dead, but we see and understand that our true reality is more than the reality in which we normally live. It is truly an absurdity beyond reality....and that is a good thing. Keep believing, and help others to believe as well.

~ Fr. Bill

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### Box Tops for Education



Our sexton, Eddie Erking, collects Box Tops for Education for a school in Alaska. These postage stamp-sized coupons appear on General Mills cereals, Scott paper goods, and a host of other products, and provide schools with additional funds for needed projects. When you spot them on items at your house, please clip them out, place in a properly labeled envelope, and leave on Trula's desk or in her mailbox. Eddie will appreciate it.

~ Nancy Zerbe

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### Important 2018 Dates

On April, 28, 2018 delegates will convene to elect a new bishop. This means that the delegates elected during January's annual meeting to attend the diocesan convention will also attend this convention. On September 15, 2018, the new bishop will be consecrated. The location of the consecration service is yet to be determined.

~ Fr. Bill

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### Pies for Guys

Calling all pie bakers. Each Father's Day for the past several years, the men of our parish have been honored for their service with Pies for Guys at hospitality time after worship. Ladies, pull out your favorite pie recipe (or your fella's favorite) and bake it to share for Father's Day. A sign up sheet will be placed in the parish hall so bakers can indicate what they plan to bring. A good variety of pies has always appeared, so if you are not a baker, just come and enjoy.



~ Nancy Zerbe



## Financial Report Month Ending April 30, 2017

Operating Income	Month	YTD	Budget
Offerings	\$ 10,544	\$ 36,251	\$ 97,750
Other income	2,001	20,372 *	9,305
Fund raising (net)	<u>345</u>	<u>(83)</u>	<u>4,000</u>
Total Operating In- come	12,890	56,540	111,055
Expenses			
Salaries	5,124	22,451	65,796
Bldg. maintenance	148	3,914	10,500
Diocese payments	1,278	5,112	15,329
Office	122	735	4,950
Worship/outreach	412	1,855	4,950
Other		<u>3,290</u>	<u>6,370</u>
Total Operating Ex- penses	7,084	37,357	107,895
Net Income (loss)	<u>\$ 5,806</u>	<u>\$ 19,183</u>	<u>\$ 3,160</u>

- June 6            Stewart & Phyllis Davidson
- June 16          Ross & Joanne Ellis
- June 17          Jim & Debbie Baldree
- June 19          John & Sally Jo Reynolds
- June 20          Ken & Kathy Potter
- June 22          Chuck & Nancy Zerbe



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- June 10          Kelly Suffness
  - June 18          Leo Pires
  - June 29          Michael Jeanette
  - June 30          Phyllis Bock



\* Includes \$14,100 in donations for electrical work.

# HAPPY FATHER'S DAY!

## June Events

### June 4

- Healing Service
- Food Bank Sunday
- Last Day for Sunday School and Choir
- Picnic

### June 10

- Men's Group  
8:30 a.m.

### June 18

- Pies for Guys

### June 18

- Summer Worship Schedule Begins

### June 25

- Vestry Meeting

### June 27

- Summer Lunch Program

### June 29

- Summer Lunch Program



**\*\*Child care is available during our Sunday Service.\*\***

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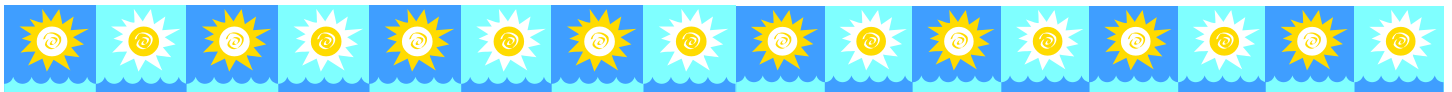


The Episcopal Diocese of Bethlehem  
*"To Know, Live, and Share God's Love"*

# June 2017

## Schedule of Participants

	<b>June 4</b>	<b>June 11</b>	<b>June 18</b>	<b>June 25</b>
<b>Lector</b>	Nancy Zerbe	Scott Fuller	Marcos Pires	Jim Baldree
<b>Intercessor</b>	Phyllis Bock	Jen McTighe	Gail Martin	Debbie Baldree
<b>Chalice</b>	Jackie Ellenberger Nancy Steckel	Scott Fuller Christine Konetchy	Jack Jones Megan Steich	Lori Bernardo Christy Facciponti
<b>Ushers</b>	Paul Bertholet Violet Bertholet	Jackie Ellenberger Jen McTighe	Ralph Cianci Gail Martin	Grace Goodin Noel Lucas
<b>Youth Ushers</b>	Jack Greco Evan Suwalski	Shane Greco Andrew McTighe	Freddy Facciponti Tony Suffness	Joseph Ellis Nolan Fuller
<b>Crucifer</b>	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD
<b>Acolyte</b>	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Violet Bertholet	Nancy Zerbe	Debbie Jones	Georgia Cianci
<b>Greeter</b>	Mike Tintle	Phyllis Davidson	Lisa Meixsell	Jackie Ellenberger
<b>Counters</b>	Christine Konetchy Jen McTighe	Jim Baldree Howard Potter	Steve Mitchell Nancy Zerbe	Tony Bernardo Jackie Ellenberger
<b>Nursery</b>	Angelique Patsis	Joanne Ellis	Tammy Fuller	Juli Greco



### Important June Dates

- June 4.** Last day of the season for Sunday school and choir. Picnic after the service—sign up in the parish hall.
- June 18.** Summer worship schedule begins—Holy Eucharist at 9:30 a.m. Pies for Guys after service.

### Thank You

Thank you for your generous response to the Presiding Bishop's call for support of the Good Friday offering. On behalf of all those whose lives are improved throughout the Anglican Province of Jerusalem and the Middle East, please accept my profound and sincere appreciation.

Faithfully,

The Rev. Canon Robert D. Edmunds  
Middle East Partnership Officer

# July 2017 Schedule of Participants

	July 2	July 9	July 16	July 23	July 30
<b>Lector</b>	Jennifer Suwalski	Megan Steich	Ann Power	Gail Martin	Nancy Steckel
<b>Intercessor</b>	Megan Steich	Jennifer Suwalski	Nancy Steckel	Lisa Meixsell	Jackie Ellenberger
<b>Chalice</b>	Gail Martin Nancy Steckel	Jackie Ellenberger Christine Konetchy	Scott Fuller Megan Steich	Lori Bernardo Jack Jones	Christy Facciponti Nancy Steckel
<b>Ushers</b>	Jen McTighe Brian Suwalski	Scott Fuller Mike Tintle	Lisa Meixsell Nancy Steckel	Paul Bertholet Violet Bertholet	Jackie Ellenberger Juli Greco
<b>Youth Ushers</b>	Lindsay Fuller Ally Fuller	Andrew McTighe Drew Suwalski	Nina Facciponti Jack Greco	Carter Suwalski Evan Suwalski	Shane Greco Tony Suffness
<b>Crucifer</b>	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD
<b>Acolyte</b>	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Jackie Ellenberger	Violet Bertholet	Nancy Zerbe	Debbie Jones	Georgia Cianci
<b>Greeter</b>	Jim Jennings	Marge Jennings	Prudie Potter	Scott Fuller	Noel Lucas
<b>Counters</b>	Ralph Cianci Brian Suwalski	Christy Facciponti Lisa Meixsell	Scott Fuller Steve Mitchell	Jack Jones Jen McTighe	Christine Konetchy Howard Potter
<b>Nursery</b>	Annie Greco	Toni Facciponti	Christine Konetchy	Angelique Patsis	Joanne Ellis



## Coffee Hour

I am having a hard time getting volunteers to host weekly coffee hour; therefore, we will try something different this summer. IF no one signs up for the coffee hour, only cookies and lemonade/iced tea will be served. So the conversation in the congregation goes like this:

**Congregation:** WHAT NO COFFEE!!!

**Me:** Yes, no coffee!!!

**Congregation:** Why not, I need coffee in the morning!

**Me:** Well when coffee is made, then someone has to clean the pots and unplug the coffee maker.

**Congregation:** Big deal, how difficult is that!

**Me:** Its not difficult, but someone has to be responsible for doing it.

As a result the only time we will be serving coffee is when someone decides they will take on the responsibility (and "difficult" duty) of cleaning the pots.

# June 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4 Food Bank Sunday Last Day for Sunday School and Choir Choir Practice 9:00 am Sunday School 9:45 am Holy Eucharist 10:00 am Healing Service Picnic	5 Happy Anniversary!!! Stewart & Phyllis Davidson	6	7	8	9	10 Happy Birthday!!! Kelly Suffness Men's Group 8:30 am
11 Holy Eucharist 10:00 am	12	13	14	15	16 Happy Anniversary!!! Ross & Joanne Ellis	17 Happy Anniversary!!! Jim & Debbie Baldree
18 Happy Father's Day!!! Happy Birthday!!! Leo Pires Summer Worship Schedule Begins Holy Eucharist 9:30 am Pies for Guys	19 Happy Anniversary!!! John & Sally Jo Reynolds	20 Happy Anniversary!!! Ken & Kathy Potter	21	22 Happy Anniversary!!! Chuck & Nancy Zerbe	23	24
25 Holy Eucharist 9:30 am	26	27 Summer Lunch Program	28	29 Happy Birthday!!! Michael Jeanette Summer Lunch Program	30 Happy Birthday!!! Phyllis Bock	