

Newsletter for July and August 2018



Summer is the season when many of us have some opportunities to rest, have fun, and be with family and friends. Taking time to stop, breathe and contemplate the beauty and small joys of life are essential to the well-being of our souls. Since summer is a time when many of us tend gardens, I shared with our vestry a reflection by Kent Nerburn from his book "Small Graces". It was called "The Gift of the Garden". He talked about a friend who was a Jesuit priest who, as he grew older, found more meaning about God and the faith while tending his Japanese garden then he did through his many years of study and theology. Showing him a branch from a tiny plant that was gradually turning its leaves towards the sun, he said, "Who among us does not grow when someone shines even the smallest bit of sunlight upon us? If I cannot see the face of God in a flower or a shaft of light, why should I expect to see it in ideas and books?" Kent then wrote, "Life, death, earth and sky all come together in the intimacy of a garden's space. It is a metaphor too rich to exhaust, a perfect microcosm of the universe's deepest wisdom, a constant reminder that we must accept the forces of nature if we are to survive. At least once in the course of a day, I try to contemplate a garden. The season does not matter. The weightlessness of the snow, the timelessness of rocks, the timebound mutability of plants, the fragile immediacy of flowers – somewhere within is a lesson that will touch my heart and link me, if just for a moment, with the universal rhythms that are the source of all true peace."

We've had a busy spring, but one full of blessings as we finished the lower kitchen, worked together at the Barn Sale, provided a cookout meal for our AA friends, and have offered up many prayers and hugs for those among us going through some difficult health issues. I hope that this summer you will be blessed with moments when you find grace and joy as you contemplate your garden – whatever and wherever that may be for you.

Peace and all good!

Carolyn

OUTREACH

Partnership with Lancaster Elementary

St. David's was able to do a few things with the school before summer break. A half dozen of us attended a rehearsal of the school's spring concert. The theme was "Through the Decades" with the children singing songs from each decade from the 50's to the present. They were amazingly good and we had a great time. Several members also attended the May PTA meeting, and we brought over several bins of school supplies to support the children's drive to collect materials for an elementary

school in the Caribbean that was hit by the hurricane. The principal said he would definitely like to obtain 1-2 elementary school robotic kits as part of the STEM curriculum (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math). That would enable more students to be a part of a team. He will be getting back to us as how to best make this donation happen. Once the fall draws near, there will be many more opportunities to be with and support our kids.

Isaiah 58

Our volunteers have been keeping busy at the donation center. With the latest fire in Salem where 10 apartments were lost, affordable housing is at a critical state. Isaiah 58 has been helping at least one family that was displaced. Interestingly, the Rev. David Ysenka has reported that one of the groups most in need of housing is single women over 55. He is hoping to have some of the churches who participated in Family Promise to consider housing some of these women.

Dave Hall Fund

In June the fund was used to purchase two cases of special nutritional drinks for a 16-year old boy who has diabetes and Asperger's syndrome who has eating difficulties. He is required to drink several special nutritional drinks per day, but his mother cannot afford it, barely able to afford rent and pay for his medical expenses. We assisted this boy with the same last summer.

Gratitude Cookout

On Saturday June 16, St. David's provided a cookout lunch for the members of AA. We had lots of church members volunteer to help. The AA members kept thanking us and we kept trying to say back, "Thank you for all you do to help save lives!"

May outreach - Boys and Girls Club

\$126 was collected to provide children from low income families the opportunity to experience their day camp program.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION



Adult Education

Let's get the Bible Study going again. During the spring we were studying the Gospel of Mark on Mondays at 11 a.m. We had a lot of fun and very lively discussions! The group will pick up again on Monday July 2nd. All are welcome to join in whenever you can come.

WORSHIP



During the summer months of July and August, we will again be combining services. So, on Sunday there will be one service at 9:00 a.m. This is a wonderful opportunity for us to all worship together.

Mass on the Grass and Parish Picnic

The rain held off and the sun came out for our worship and our picnic overlooking Arlington Pond June 24th at the home of Phil and Georgette Smith. Thank you Georgette and Phil for your hospitality!

FUN EVENTS AND FUNDRAISING

Barn Sale

The annual Barn Sale was again a success thanks to all of your work and donated items for the sale. We made just over the budgeted \$1,400.

2018 Crafter's Fair

Activity is gearing up in preparation for the craft fair September 15 and 16.

- The crafter registration for this time of year is running about normal. When you attend fairs and farmer's markets, collect business cards and give them to Lynn Clarke who will invite them to participate in our fair.
- During the summer we ask people to solicit raffle prizes and to make baskets. Letters for soliciting businesses are in the craft fair slot in the copy machine room. Make as many as you need but please keep Vera Kirk informed about any places you will be going to so there will be no duplicate requests. In July a list with ideas for baskets will be posted in the upper hall. Sign up and feel free to make your own!
- In August, we will have posters ready to be put up around town to advertise the fair. We soon will be mailing out packets of raffle tickets to purchase or sell. We'll also have signs with current dates that can be put up on private property as soon as they are ready.

Thank you to everyone who makes this a great event!

SCRIP – great way to give gifts, pay for purchases and help the church!

Scrip is a program through which you can purchase gift cards for almost any chain store or restaurant you can think of, and a portion of your purchase will go automatically to St. David's. Order forms are in the foyer. Orders and checks can be dropped off in the wooden deposit box in the copy machine room. Gift cards can be used for gifts, but the program really pays off when people use them for their regular everyday purchases.



STEWARDSHIP OF FINANCES AND PROPERTY

Finances

The finances are holding steady. The vestry approved additional spending for property expenditures of the electrical work done for the barn and tree removal happening this summer.

Property

The kitchen is done! Thanks again to the Kagan family for providing the money that enabled this project, and to Bob Habeeb and Bob McGilvary. They not only spent many hours almost daily dealing with all the contractors, but shopped for and had the appliances installed, painted the kitchen and adjacent lower hall walls, took care of the trim work, lowered the ceilings, and countless other tasks that all took time and effort. They did an amazing job!!

It is now looking like we will have dinner event in October where the Kagan family can attend and we can dedicate and bless the kitchen in memory of their mother, Johanna. We'll keep you posted as to this celebratory event.

A new outdoor faucet was installed behind the lower hall. Also, the electrical work and lights were totally redone in the barn since the fire inspector noticed that the wire bringing electricity to the building was very worn.

A new cleaning company started cleaning the parish the third week of June.

The four dead large pine trees will be taken down this summer.



Keep up to date with news from the diocese! Log onto the website www.nhepiscopal.org. "The Bulletin" lists events and if you subscribe, it will be emailed to you (free).

PARISH PRAYER LIST (please let the office know of deletions and additions)

Flora Meyer, Catherine Meehan, Donna Conrad, Tony & Dot Enos, Jean Lynch, Carlene McKinnon, Elaine Schwager, Lynn Romano, Marsha Rothel, Charles Smith, Vincent Gallucci, Katrina LeBel, Jim Saucier, David, Jeff, and Deb Clark, Morgan Decker, Kim Dippo, Norman & Mona Soucy, Rick McGibbon, Ed Brinkman, Angela Randall, Sean William, Haylee O'Toole, Beth Soule, Theresa Kristen, Janice Josephine Carney, Kristina Morrison, Marilyn McIntrye, Patrice Davis, Evelyn Austin, Patrick Ryan, Jennifer Merrick, Joseph Grande, Guy Grande, Liz Naters-Gamarra, Carole Carlson, Sandy DeVine, Lynda Lubelzyk, Errol & Helen Duncan, Lynn Clarke, Alex Frazier, Geri O'Brian, Jessica Francis, Barbara McGovern, Elaine Clark, Joan Logan, Calvin Smith, Dick & Millie Cartier, John Peterson, Laura Campbell, Carmen Acevedo.

Please also remember our homebound members: Fred Miner, Carolyn Duranko, Barbara Davis, Arlene Law, Carol Jones, Doris Deputy, Rusty Simpson.

Rest in peace Dick Deputy!

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