

The Messenger

St. Barnabas' Episcopal Church of the Deaf

January 2005

<http://stbarnabasdeaf.edow.org>

A Congregation of the Episcopal Diocese of Washington

Office 301-907-9740 V/TTY
email: StBarnabasDeaf@aol.com

Rector

The Rev Barbara A. Allen
301-907-7855 V/TTY
revbaallen@aol.com
cell (via 711 Relay): 301-755-4346
Cell Phone text messaging:
3017554346@tmomail.net

Senior Warden

Marlene Hines, RdyMar@aol.com
Weekly 10 AM Holy Eucharist Service
With Healing Service 3rd Sundays
St. Mary's Chapel at
St. John's, Norwood
6701 Wisconsin Avenue at Bradley
Lane, Chevy Chase, MD. 20815

Satellite Congregation

Signed Eucharist at **St. George's Glenn
Dale** on the last Sunday of each month
1:30 PM 7010 Glenn Dale Rd,
Glenn Dale

Gallaudet University Ministry:

Ely Center Room 114 Fridays 11-3:00
during the Academic Year
Discussion group/lunch meeting is held
at noon each Friday, Holy Eucharist
celebrated the second Sun. of each
month at 2:00 PM in the Chapel of the
Student Union Building

Forthcoming Special Events

New Year's Day Open House at

Rector's Home: 6919 Strathmore St.

Apt C, Bethesda MD

Time: 1:00 to 4:00 PM

Come and leave as you need to.

The Rector, Barbara Allen will provide a
main dish, bread and butter and some
drinks. All who attend are asked to
bring a dish to share.

Feast of the Epiphany

Sunday January 9

The Rev. Dr. Roger Pickering will
preach and the Rev. Barbara A. Allen
will celebrate the Eucharist
Following the service there will be coffee
hour with a Three Kings Cake. We will
celebrate January birthdays on this
Sunday as well.

The 110th Episcopal Diocese of Washington Convention

Jan 28-29 at National Cathedral will be
sign interpreted and St. Barnabas' will
have a display table. Volunteers are
needed to sit at the table to answer
questions about deaf ministry.
Volunteers who help in the Convention
will receive tickets for dinner on Friday
and lunch on Saturday.

Episcopal Conference of the Deaf 2005 Convention "Recharge and Energize"

August 10-14 2005

Pallottine Renewal Center near St. Louis MO , Visit www.ecdeaf.com for details or email ECDSTL2005@hotmail.com

Just-For-Fun Events

If there is interest, St. Barnabas' can go as a group

Captioned Movies

Per listing in <http://www.mdcdhh.org/>

InSight Cinema is a non-profit organization dedicated to bringing the big screen movie-going experience to the 30 million deaf and hard-of-hearing (DHH) and English-as-a-second-language (ESL) audiences in the United States.

To locate SHOW TIMES please go to <http://www.insightcinema.org/links.html>

and follow the links to the theatres. Please be aware that many theatres do not post show times until a few days before the showing.

MD ROCKVILLE REGAL ROCKVILLE CENTER 13 THE INCREDIBLES
01/09/05 through 01/11/05

MD ROCKVILLE REGAL ROCKVILLE CENTER 13 LEMONY SNICKETT'S A Series of Unfortunate Events
01/16/05 through 01/18/05

DC WASHINGTON REGAL GALLERY PLACE STADIUM 14 NATIONAL TREASURE
1/22 through 1/25

February 19, 2005
Gallaudet University
Winter Homecoming: 9th Annual Alumni "Basketball Madness"

The women's and men's varsity basketball games will be played between Gallaudet University and Catholic University at 2 p.m. and 4 p.m., respectively, in the Field House. Admission to both games: \$5 adult; \$3 student: Free for ages 7 and under. GUAA members get \$2 discount.

April 8 & 9, 2005
Spring Homecoming

Community Events/Volunteer Opportunities – Show that St. Barnabas' Cares

5th Annual Soup Fest 2005 (Deaf and Deaf Blind Camp Benefit)
Sat. January 8, 2005 - 6:00 pm

Catonsville UM Church - 6 Melvin Avenue in Catonsville. This is a different church from last year and this is NOT the deaf church in Baltimore.

Tickets are \$8.00 for adults and \$4 for children. Tickets can be purchased at the door

Menu: Soup, bread, dessert, beverage (all you can eat)

Entertainment: Tim Medicus - juggler, balloon-shape maker

Directions:

1) Take 95 N to exit 49B - Baltimore Beltway - 695 W - Towson. This is a left lane exit ramp.

2) Stay on 695 to exit 13 (Frederick Road - Rt. 144. At the end of the ramp go left onto Frederick Road heading west.

3) Go through 3 traffic lights...

4) Go to the 4th traffic light and make a right onto Melvin Avenue. The church is on the corner of Melvin and Frederick. Parking is behind the church.

Enter the basement.

For more info contact Peggy Johnson at 410-247-5045 V/TTY or RevPink@aol.com

Metro Washington Association of the Deaf-Blind Events:

MWADB Mardi Gras Party Feb 12 6-11 PM at Gallaudet University Student Academic Center MultiPurpose Room

MWADB tour of National Museum of the American Indian March 26, 1-4 PM

MWADB auction April 16 6-11 PM at Gallaudet University Student Academic Center MultiPurpose Room

Contact stevenfrank@juno.com for details. To volunteer as Support Services Provider contact **Sandra Carpe** at sandsky80@aol.com Galludet students can earn community service credits.

“No Time to Wait” Conference on Deaf Women and HIV/AIDS in Africa June 10-12, 2005 Gallaudet University

Registration Fee:
International Registrant: \$100
U.S. Registrant: \$350
Student: \$100
On-site registration fee add \$50

You can register at the web site: deafafricanwomen.org

**The Pastor's Corner:
Doing, Being, Praying**

Where does the time go? It seems only a short time ago that we were celebrating Christmas 2003 and New Year's 2004. I want to remind us of how important it is to take one day, one hour, one minute at a time. This very minute, as I type, will never happen again.

This thought should give us all pause. I am writing at about 8:30 PM on Tuesday, December 28th. What have I accomplished today? Each of us needs to ask ourselves this question every night before we go to sleep. And, then we need to consider what we will accomplish the next day.

But, remember that "doing" is not the most important part of life. No, "being" is what life is all about. Think about your life. Think about this day. Were you "doing" or "being" today? God gave us our "being". It is our responsibility to carry out that "being" with God's help. And God will help us if we just ask.

Do you pray in the morning? Do you pray at night? Do you talk with God as you live each day? I hope so.

If so, then your New Year will be blessed without measure. If you do not now pray, promise God and yourself that you will in 2005.

God be with you and bless you is my prayer,

Barbara A. Allen +

News from Among Us

At the December 5 service, Barbara shared the sad news that her 11-year old cat **Miss Muffet** was diagnosed with cancer and Barbara had to have her put to sleep. She said it was the first time she had ever had to have a pet euthanized and it was a difficult experience. Barbara pointed out that it is important for us as a congregation to share our feelings. It also made her again realize how short life is and the importance for us all to decide what is important in our lives. Condolences to Barbara on the loss of her animal companion.

Mae Lynn Mullen has moved from Silver Spring to Rockville. Actually, she is living in Baltimore during the week while taking classes and is living in Rockville on the weekends. She is renting a room from fellow MWADB member (MWADB Vice President) **Ann Black**. Congratulations to Mae Lynn on finding housing.

Kiombo Nsumbu is looking for a new apartment or room to rent since his landlord will be renovating and can't renew his lease. Best wishes to Kiombo in his housing search.

Many of you may know a retired deaf-blind man named **Jack Wright** (the first MWADB president) who visited us in October. According to **the Rev. Peggy Johnson** of Christ Church UMC in Baltimore, Jack has moved to Baltimore where he is closer to one of his daughters and also the Workforce Technology Center where he has enrolled in some activities. You may be aware that a number of years ago Jack won a lawsuit against an apartment complex in Wheaton that denied him housing on account of his deaf-blindness. That apartment

management company was required by the court to give Jack a rent-free apartment for life. It turns out that that same apartment company owns an apartment building in Baltimore, and thankfully Jack was able to move to that building and continue to live rent-free.

During the December 5 Morning Advent Study, **Tracy Dieter** led an Advent Wreath workshop. **Christina Duley** made a wreath with assistance from **Marlene Hines**. **Kary Dyer** and **Ed Knight** also made wreaths (although we won't show a picture of Ed's wreath, hah.) **Tom Hattaway** and **Kary Dyer** were kind enough to make a wreath for the rector, which she much enjoyed during the rest of the season.



Christina Duley making her Advent Wreath



Phoebe Tharp, Robert Najar, the Rev. Barbara Allen, and Ginny Lindsay chat after service

Barbara shared some history about Christmas celebrations. Back in the 17th century the Puritans in England outlawed the celebration of Christmas, and then the Puritans in Massachusetts passed the same laws and actually put people in jail for celebrating Christmas. The Puritans, who were very serious and sober, disapproved of parties and celebrations.

On December 5 **Johnny Najar** came with his brother **Robert Najar** who is visiting from New England. Johnny is living in an assisted living facility in Frederick, but we are happy to say his health is improving and so he and his brother are looking for another living arrangement for him which is closer to the D.C. area deaf community including St. Barnabas'.

During Fellowship Time, **Kary Dyer** and **Tom Hattaway** provided refreshments including a cake to celebrate December birthdays, especially the birthday of **Jesus**. Thanks Kary and Tom!

On Sunday December 12, **Barbara** gave a sermon on our need to witness to others what God has done in our lives. When someone is sick or experiencing adversity, we say we are sorry or extend our sympathy, but how often do we tell them how God has helped us get through bad times? In the Gospel of Matthew, John the Baptist who is in prison sends his messengers to visit Jesus and ask him if he is the one who is to come (the Messiah). It is a very straightforward question but Jesus does not give a straightforward answer. Instead, Jesus tells them to tell John what they have witnessed – the blind receiving sight, the lame walking, the deaf hearing, the dead rising to new life, and the poor receiving good news. Barbara explained that it is not our duty to preach to others, rather it is to witness the good things we have seen God do.

During the announcement time **Barbara** said that she had laser treatment for her eye and although her vision is not quite back to normal it has improved some.

Report on December 12 Open Forum with the Presiding Bishop

By Ed Knight

On December 12 at 7 PM there was an open forum, "The Anglican Communion: Crucible of Difference," in Perry Auditorium of the National Cathedral. About eighty or ninety people attended. These are my notes of comments by **Presiding Bishop Frank Griswold**. These are not necessarily exact quotes.

Anglicanism is relational and incarnational. We are at a moment of history in which we are being invited to live communion on a deeper level. This means entering the reality of the other and seeing in each other the face of the risen Christ. The Windsor Report contains a number of invitations to this deeper level of communion.

The words "conversation" and "conversion" have the same Latin root. The only things that get reported are the conflicts but behind the scenes there are conversations happening that are building up the body instead of tearing it down.

Someone recently said to Griswold not to worry, the non-European Anglicans "will catch up with us". Griswold says that that remark shows some of the condescension and arrogance that the non-European churches have experienced. A deeper level of communion with non-European Anglicans means more than sending money. We have to enter into their reality.

In some non-European Anglican churches there has been much more of an emphasis on scripture compared to the sacraments in part due to a historic shortage of priests.

(However, scripture is itself sacramental; we meet Jesus in the pages of the Bible.)

Evangelism needs to be done in different ways in different parts of the Communion. For instance, England now has an extremely secular culture and what might work best in that context is not necessarily appropriate in our context.

In the Acts of the Apostles, the Holy Spirit leaps beyond the bounds of who is "in" and who is "out" to include the Gentiles. This is very surprising to the Jewish Christian community because the Gentiles don't observe the Jewish Law. The community had to step back and turn to scripture and do theological reflection. So in the Bible sometimes things happen first and then people have to reflect later.

In the Bible sickness is often seen either as punishment from God or as being caused by evil spirits. For instance, some of the illness depicted in the New Testament that is attributed to demon possession we now recognize as epilepsy. The authors of the Bible were part of a community that did not have access to the medical knowledge we have now. It seems we respect the expansion of truth in some areas but not in others. We are never in full possession of the truth. Truth is discovered in communion.

Griswold is against a structural change to the Anglican Communion because that would merely be a technical fix and would not necessarily help accomplish the deeper level of communion that is needed.

Gallaudet Student Activities

On December 18 the **Rev. Barbara Allen, Dayak Dashuwar, Steven Frank, Ed Knight** and **Michael Martin** went to the National Museum of the American Indian. They watched a movie “Who We Are” (captioned through a small pager-like device) and viewed the three permanent exhibitions: Our Universes, Our Peoples, and Our Lives. Barbara sign-interpreted for the curator for the “Our Lives” exhibition, who said she was half Navajo and half Southern Ute. She said that historically the colonists from Europe considered the Native Americans as “heathen” and “inferior”, and later as objects of scientific study. The Museum is an opportunity for Native Americans to tell their own stories instead of being labeled. She spoke about the Pocahontas story. Native Americans don’t have their own written languages but they can record history through pictographs. Pictographs have been found as well as stories passed down through generations that indicate that Pocahontas was captured by British colonists and kept as a hostage in the prison on the British ship for use in a prisoner exchange and for ransom of corn, which the colonists desperately needed.

Dayak Dashuwar is a Junior studying Criminology and Information Systems Management. He is from Nigeria and says there are currently 15 students from Nigeria attending Gallaudet.

Steven Frank is the Recreation and Social Chair for the Metropolitan Washington Association of the Deaf-Blind. The information desk gave him a Braille guidebook and another large print publication which he will share with MWADB members to help prepare them for the March 5 MWADB Tour of the museum.



Dayak Dashuwar, the Rev. Barbara Allen and Michael Martin in lobby of the Museum of the American Indian

On December 19, **Barbara** gave a sermon on the Gospel of Matthew where an angel appears to Joseph in a dream. She explained that unwed mothers had a very hard time in that society because it was considered a great shame, so it took a lot of faith for Joseph to do as the angel told him, and that we should remember the faith of both Mary and Joseph.

Thank you to **Jim and Ginny Lindsay** for bringing refreshments. **Ed Knight**, who has recently learned he is “pre-Diabetes”, brought some sugar-free sweets to share with several other St. Barnabas’ members who have Diabetes including our rector **Barbara**.

The Fall Ingathering of the United Thanks Offering totaled \$325. Thank you to all the thankful people who donated to this offering. Also thank you to everyone who sent in a Christmas donation and all those who have made a pledge to St. Barnabas’ for 2005.

Christmas Eve Snapshots



Richard Ellis (off-duty interpreter), Kim Veney (interpreter for 6 PM service) and Kane Beatty, Richard's nephew. Richard's mother and sister also attended.



St. Barnabas' Christmas Eve gathering after 7:30 PM service: L-R Wendy Ikezawa Kohashi and her son Matthew Kohashi (Wendy's husband and daughter are just out of camera range), Tom Hattaway, Jenn Phillips petting her lab Kajal, Kary Dyer



**Iris Gomes,
Interpreter Nancy
Conners, and
Shelley Simms at
National Cathedral
10 PM Christmas Eve
service. It was Iris's
second Christmas
Eve at the Cathedral
and Shelley's first.**

Note: the senior warden, the junior warden and two members-at-large are elected during odd-numbered years and the secretary and treasurer and the other two members-at-large are elected during even-numbered years. Lectionary Readings can be found on the web at <http://www.satucket.com/lectionary/>

Worship Ministries

Rector: The Rev. Barbara A. Allen

Consultant for Deaf Ministry:

The Rev. Dr. Roger Pickering

Eucharistic Ministers/Response Leaders

Tom Hattaway

Ed Knight

Eucharistic Visitor: Ed Knight

Acolyte: Nancy Conger

Altar Guild

Marlene Hines, Christina Duley, Phoebe Tharp

Mission Committee

Chair: The Rev. Barbara A. Allen

April 2003—March 2006

Treasurer - Ed Knight

April 2003—March 2004

Secretary - Rudy Hines

April 2003—March 2005

Vice-Chair - Marlene Hines

Asst. Vice Chair - Shelley Simms

Members - at - Large

Mark Kleberg

Jeff Mc Caw

Tonya Stremlau

Other Ministries

Hospitality Chair: Kary Dyer

Tellers

Rudy Hines, James Lindsay, John Ricciardi

Newsletter Co-editors

The Rev. Barbara A. Allen, Ed Knight

Webmaster: Derek Braun

Parish Administrator: Tracy Dieter

Parish Office Volunteer: Shell Kimble

Greeting Card Ministry: Phoebe Tharp

ECD Delegate: Tom Hattaway

ECD Alternate: Ginny Lindsay

Finance Committee:

Ed Knight, Jim Lindsay, Jeffrey McCaw, Rudy Hines, Barbara Allen (ex officio)

2004 Stewardship Committee:

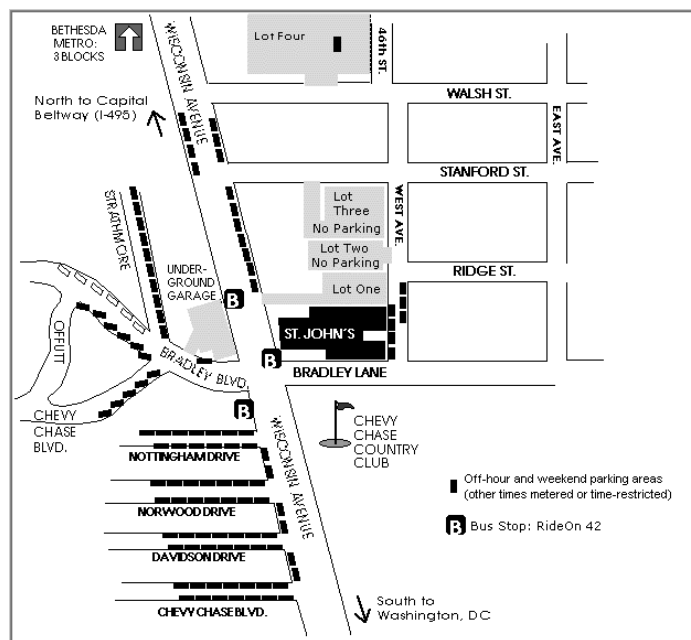
Rudy Hines, Ed Knight, Shelley Simms

Interpreters:

Richard Ellis, Libby McKnight, Karen Newquist-Gifford, Kim Veney

St. Barnabas' Episcopal Church of the Deaf
6701 Wisconsin Avenue
Chevy Chase, MD 20815

Next Deadline for Messenger submissions is January 25. Please submit items to the co-editor, Ed Knight by email, if possible, at knightedd@comcast.net.



St. Barnabas' meets in St. Mary's Chapel at St. John's Norwood Church at the corner of Wisconsin Ave and Bradley Lane