



Saint Bartholomew's News

2015 September

Words from Reverend Wendy

Dear Ones:

September used to be the month school started. I think most of us remember when school started the week after Labor Day. So for me, September will always remain the month we start school. Starting school meant



we were beginning new things and it required we get new pencils and paper and even a new pair of shoes or two to wear. Despite being out of school for many years now, there is something exciting about walking down the aisles of school supplies and seeing the newly scrubbed faces looking eagerly forward to returning to school in September.

The Church calendar remains on “Ordinary” time, which we learn is not an

adjective to describe the time but rather refers to the ordinal numbers used to describe the time. Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost, for instance, demonstrates the ordinal number 12 as 12th. We are in the ending months of our church year as we gear up for a year that begins with Advent. This can be a time we return to school eager and excited, or a time we trudge forward until the next season comes.

I think Christ calls each of us to look eagerly into our lives. We are so blessed to be together each Sunday. This month, we are beginning a Monday night study to examine how the secular writings of author Brene’ Brown, and the Bible intersect. The St. Bartholomew’s ECW is hosting the class, and all women from the community are invited to join us. Consider inviting a friend to join.

As we think about our church, it is time to consider how you might serve in the coming year. Have you had a “turn” on Vestry? Do you feel called to Lay Eucharistic Visitor ministry? Do you ever consider Assistant Sunday School Teacher

to substitute for our wonderful Kay when she takes a break? Do you ever consider writing devotions for a Lenten devotional book we have considered compiling for 2016? Please consider your call and, if you need help, let's make an appointment to talk about your talents and how they help fill the needs of the community and the church.

I would be remiss if I did not encourage those of you who may feel a call to ordained ministry. The Diocese of Texas has so many different ways to serve as ordained clergy. We have Deacons, and both paid and volunteer priests. If you have ever thought you might be called to the ordained ministry, I want to talk to you.

As we walk down the aisle of the new pencils and notebooks, think about your new "school" year. What would you like to learn this school year? Oh I know, you thought school was over—it's never over. We never stop learning. We can learn to use the Internet, read the Bible more faithfully, exercise more vigorously, eat better foods, cook interesting recipes, knit, crochet, and love one another more deeply. This school year pick something new to learn and let's share our newly found knowledge.



Please know I feel honored and privileged to see and serve you each Sunday we gather to celebrate the Lord's Supper. You are each so precious to me and to that silly hook-tailed hound, Brownie. Please never hesitate to call me at the church or my cell (713-291-7195) if you need anything.

With Christ's Love and Peace,

Rev'd Wendy

P.S. With the "new" school year starting I expect to find some regular office hours so you can begin to stop in for a visit from time to time.

Barks from Brother Brownie

Dear Friends:

First, I need to lodge a complaint—one of the editorial board members did not believe I was writing these letters and felt attribution should go to the Rev. Well, I was so insulted, I almost stopped writing and then I remembered even our Savior Jesus had a few who did not believe Him when He said He was the Son of God. While I am not any sort of super creature anywhere near, J.C., it reminds me, we should suspend our disbelief from time to time.

Second, I wanted to let the kids know how happy I am when they come get me after church. It is one of the highlights of my week. I wonder if you ever feel excited when you see someone after waiting a long time to see them. Family who lives far away or friends from places you used to

live. I think Jesus expects us to be just as excited to see one another when we see each other every day.

Love is an amazing thing. How do you show love to your neighbors? Do you bring in their trash bin when you are at the end of the driveway anyway? Do you place the package on their porch when you see the rains coming? Do you check on the elderly neighbor you have not seen in a day or so? And what about the grouchy neighbor who makes you mad with loud music and rude gestures? Jesus told us to love our neighbor, period. Not our nice neighbor but our grouchy, mean, scary neighbor.

So this month as our little town and county continue to heal from the wounds of division—let's each think about things we can do to love our neighbor. Hold doors open for others, offer to help someone to their car, just be nice with a smile instead of a scowl.

I can wag my tail to show happiness but you humans have to use other means—try a few this month and see what happens.

This month let's all treat others the way we would like to be treated: with love.

Love,



Keeping Up with Camp Allen

Summer is coming to an end at Camp Allen as we concluded Summer Camp last week. We are gearing up for fun activities this fall and wanted to share a few for your upcoming newsletters, pew inserts, and bulletin boards. Please let me know if you need any additional information on any of the following events/programs:

- The Adventure, Sept. 18-20
for couples, teens, parents, spouses, and anyone you want to have a fun challenging weekend in the Piney Woods.
- Fishers of Men Oct. 9-11
A men's weekend of fly-fishing and spiritual programming.
- C.S. Lewis Retreat Oct. 30-Nov.1
Of This & Other Worlds - C.S. Lewis & the Call of Deep Heaven.
A unique mix of faith, learning, & the performing arts.

For more information, contact Toni Christopher, Director for Marketing & Development

Camp Allen Conference & Retreat Center
936-825-7175
tonic@campallen.org

Announcements

- ❖ If you did not get a newsletter in the mail for August please let Cathy know. Also, all newsletter submissions need to be turned in on the 15th of each month to Aubrey.
- ❖ Sunday pew bulletins and inserts can be taken home with you. If you miss a Sunday and would like that pew bulletin please let Cathy know and we will be sure to get it to you.
- ❖ Special Appearances in August..!!!!
Mr. and Mrs. Bayh joined in on the 16th...but that's not all! Rev'd Wendy's father also dropped in. Thank you for coming! We would love to see more of you!
- ❖ Extraordinary Acolyte work has been happening at the altar lately. Skye has been doing so well that acolytes everywhere look up to her standards.



Confirmation Class 2015

Confirmation Date, **Sunday January 3, 2016 at 10:00 AM**; please add this important date to your calendar now. Bishop Dena Harrison will be confirming this class and you will meet with her before the Confirmation to meet her and let her get to know you.

Class Schedule; **we will meet ONLY 5 times**, so it is important that you attend each class and do the homework in between. All the classes will be held in the Common Room next to the Rectors Office from 11:30-1:30 with lunch served.

- **September 20**
Scripture: The Bible
- **October 18**
History: The Nicene Creed
- **November 15**
Episcopalian/Anglican I: The Book of Common Prayer
- **December 13**
Episcopalian/Anglican II: The Church Year
- **December 27**
Spirituality and Dress Rehearsal: Eucharist

All members are invited to attend the classes and may be a refresher to each of you. If you plan on attending, let Reverend Wendy know so she makes enough copies of the materials.

We will be using the Confirm Not Conform Curriculum and offering supplemental readings for this class which will include both youth and adults.

Lay Ministry

Sunday 9/6

Altar Guild	Volunteer, Volunteer
Chalice Bearer	Bobby Drew
Lesson Lector	Helen Panetti
Prayer Lector	Susan LaFitte
Acolyte	Skye Youngblood
Ushers	Darrel LaFitte, Gerald Ladig

Sunday 9/13

Altar Guild	Volunteer, Volunteer
Chalice Bearer	Charlie Menke
Lesson Lector	Nancy Wilson
Prayer Lector	Open
Ushers	Tom Scholl, John Allen

Sunday 9/20

Altar Guild	Volunteer, Volunteer
Chalice Bearer	Gerald Ladig
Lesson Lector	Helen Panetti
Acolyte	Skye Youngblood
Prayer Lector	Susan LaFitte
Ushers	Carl Nettles, Tom Scholl

Sunday 9/27

Altar Guild	Volunteer, Volunteer
Chalice Bearer	Bobby Drew
Lesson Lector	Helen Panetti
Prayer Lector	Susan LaFitte
Ushers	Darrel LaFitte, Gerald Ladig

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If you have any suggestions or ideas that you would like to be in the newsletter, email Aubrey.



September Calendar

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 -Crafts- 10:00	2	3 -Meals on Wheels- 10:00	4	5 Birthday: Kenny Tompkins
6 -Service- 10:00 Birthday: Helen Panetti	7	8 -Crafts- 10:00	9	10 -Meals on Wheels- 10:00	11 Birthday: Bobby Drew	12
13 -Service- 10:00	14	15 -Crafts- 10:00 Birthday: Tom Scholl	16 Birthday: Chad Hillman	17 Birthday: John Allen -Meals on Wheels- 10:00	18 Birthday: Darwin Bayh	19
20 -Service- 10:00 Confirmation Class 11:30 Birthday: Amy Vacher	21 Birthday: Dianne Ladig -ECW- Book Study 6:30	22 -Crafts- 10:00	23	24 -Meals on Wheels- 10:00	25 Birthday: Susan Laird	26
27 -Service- 10:00	28 -ECW- Birthdays: Karen fowler, Jo Anne Mathis Book Study 6:30	29 -Crafts- 10:00	30			

A Mother's Voice

On Sunday, August 16, St. Bartholomew's ECW had the pleasure of hosting a luncheon to celebrate the Women's Storybook Project of Texas. The Women's Storybook project was founded in 2003 by Judith Dullnig, Executive Director. The project was created to help share the gift of reading with children of incarcerated mothers, and to help build relationships between those moms and their children. The project lets mothers select a book and have their voices recorded as they read the book aloud. After recording the reading, volunteers from the Storybook Project then deliver the recordings and books to the children.



A mother's voice is powerful. Children and family members that receive these packages are moved. The Storybook Project serves as a bridge between the mother and her baby, however old her baby might be. Children are reassured that they still have the love of their mother. Young ones hear the voice of their mother, and the connection from birth remains intact. Also important, an interest in literacy is promoted through the reading and recording of the mother that otherwise might not be present.

If you are interested in volunteering with the Women's Storybook Project of Texas

you can locate information about this secular ministry at www.storybookproject.org, or call them at 512-560-8739. If you would like to contribute to this prison outreach program, you could purchase favored children's books and donate them to the program.

-Kathryn French

The Gifts of Imperfection Book Study

The Gifts of Imperfection by Brene' Brown as a book study begins Monday September 21 at 6:30 pm in the library at the church. We will meet weekly for 6 weeks, ending before Thanksgiving. Our Monday evenings will end at 8:00. All women of the church are invited to participate. Many received the book in June. If you did not get a book and would like to participate please contact Nancy Wilson or Rev. Wendy. There are still books available immediately and Amazon is only a click away. Rev. Wendy has provided the scriptural readings to support each chapter of our text. The chart below provides reading assignments for each session.

Everyone benefits from introspection, conversation, and meditation. We hope you will join us these Mondays as we grow to be the woman Christ intended.

Nancy Wilson

Gifts of Imperfection Meeting Schedule

<i>Date</i>	<i>Session</i>	<i>Gifts Reference</i>	<i>Scriptural References</i>
Sept 21	Wholehearted Living	Pgs. 1-47	The Letter of James
Sept 28	Authenticity and Self-Compassion	Pgs. 49-62	Hebrews Chapter 11
Oct 5	Resilient, Joyful, Faithful	Pgs. 63-92	I Thessalonians
Oct 12	Creativity and Rest	Pgs. 93-104	Mathew, Mark, Luke and John
Oct 26	Quiet and Finding Meaning	Pgs. 105-116	Quiet Moments in the Gospels (More of Above)
Nov 2	Laugh and Remain Playful	Pgs. 117-126	Scriptural Laughter

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