

## **Mutual Invitation: Suggestions for facilitating Inclusion in Conversations and Discussion**

A designated person will share first.

After that person has spoken, he or she then invites another to share; not a person next to you.

After the next person has spoken, that person invites another to share.

If you are not ready to share yet, say "I pass for now."

We will invite you again, later.

If you don't want to say anything, simply say "Pass," and invite another to share.

We will do this until everyone has been invited.

Please listen and do not respond to someone's sharing immediately.

There will be time to respond and to ask clarifying questions after everyone has had an opportunity to share.

*(from The Wolf Shall Dwell With the Lamb by Eric H. F. Law)*

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**Fall 2017**

## **Adult Transformation Brochure**



**ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S**  
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

*Whoever you are*

*and wherever you are on life's journey...*

*You are welcome here.*

## **Programs for Adults September—December 2017**

### ***Mission Statement***

*To be a nurturing,  
inclusive community  
centered in Jesus Christ,  
called to grow in our faith  
through worship, ministry,  
education and service.*

**UPCOMING ADULT SUNDAY  
SCHOOL CLASSES  
9:30 A.M. – 10:20 A.M.**

**Rally Day**

September 10  
Parish Hall Meeting Room

Come hear our teachers and facilitators talk about their upcoming classes. Ask questions. Think about your learning needs. Consider where you might focus on your Christian journey in this next year.

**Exploring the work of Black Theologians in the Church**

September 17, 24, October 1, 8  
Facilitator: The Rev. Dr. Corinne Crammer

The Bishop has requested churches in the diocese plan activities in September that address racism. Although the names of many civil rights activists are well known, Americans are less familiar with the work of black theologians who challenged African American Christians to address unjust social structures. Their work has also influenced other Christian liberation movements throughout the world.

- September 17 - Howard Thurman - Corinne Crammer
- September 24 - Martin Luther King, Jr. - Scotty Greene
- October 1 - James Cone - Dan Beck
- October 8 - Delores Williams and other womanist theologians - Corinne Crammer

*Corinne Crammer is an Assisting Priest and regular worshiper and teacher at St Bartholomew's.*

**St. Bartholomew's Parish Library**

Located off the main entrance hall into the church, the Library features a rich and eclectic collection of books and materials for space, study, spiritual nurturance, and simple enjoyment. Reliant on donations and self-help, the Library is open Sunday mornings and Wednesday evenings. You may have access at other times by asking a staff member for keys. See Marynell Jacob or Dan Beck if you would like to be a library volunteer.

**Guidelines for communicating  
when we gather in groups**

- R – take **Responsibility** for what you say and feel without blaming others
- E – use **Empathetic Listening**
- S – be **Sensitive to Differences** in communication/cultural styles
- P – **Ponder** what you hear and feel before you speak
- E – **Examine** your own assumptions and perceptions
- C – keep **Confidentiality**
- T – **Tolerate Ambiguity** because we are not here to debate.

There are no "winners" or "losers."

<http://www.kscopeinstitute.org/respectful-communication-guidelines/>

about a change of heart. It is about the transformation of ourselves at that deep level that shapes our vision (how we see), our commitment (our loyalty, allegiance), and our values (how we live)".

## **CANNOT GET TO CLASS RIGHT NOW – TRY AN ONLINE RESOURCE**

Although formation researchers know we are more likely to be transformed by thought-filled questions discussed in small groups, there is some good material on line that can nurture you when you cannot be in class face to face. Take a look at the following resources and commit to doing a class or listening to a good discussion/lecture.

- CHURCHNEXT/TV – St. Bartholomew's is signed up for a free one month trial of this new Episcopal grounded, main-line resource, ChurchNext. There are over 300 courses you can access, either as an individual or in a group in the church. Classes cover the Bible, prayer, family spirituality, community, ethics, Progressive Christianity. The talented presenters include Justin Welby, Archbishop of Canterbury, Brian McLaren, author and speaker, Michael Curry, bishop and preacher, Parker Palmer, author and activist. Each class has presentation and discussion questions. Contact Beverley, [beverley@stbartsatlanta.org](mailto:beverley@stbartsatlanta.org) for St Bart's access details. If the site is well used in the 30 days, the Adult Formation Committee is looking to signing up for a year.
- Free online formation experiences– 'On Being' with Krista Tippett is an award winning program that covers matters of faith, meaning and understanding. Podcasts and video conversations can be found on line at <https://onbeing.org/programs/>. When you come to church invite others to reflect on the topics with you.
- Share your favorite online learning sites with Beverley so we can build our online resources.

## **Newcomers Series**

September 24, October 1, 8

9:30 a.m., The Brooks Room

Facilitators : the Rev. Allan Sandlin, the Rev. Beverley Elliott, Mr. Bob VanKeuren

New to St. Bartholomew's? We welcome you. Have some questions? Want to know who we are as a parish and denomination? Want us to listen to your story and hopes? In these 3 sessions you will have a chance to taste each of these. Meet the interim and associate rectors and take a tour of the church.

## **Politics Now and the Ministry of Reconciliation**

October 15, 22, November 5, 12

9:30 a.m. Parish Hall Meeting Room

Presenters: Dr. John Roberts, Virginia Murray

As Christians we are called to be peacemakers, to help reconcile the world to God through Christ (2 Cor 5:18). But in the increasingly polarized state of our politics, this ministry of reconciliation is more and more challenging—especially now. We will compare our experiences and explore mediation strategies from social psychologist Jonathan Haidt, Professor of Ethical Leadership at New York University's Stern School of Business, as well as others from the field.

## **The Reformation of the Church and the World: 500th Anniversary Reflection**

October 29

9:30 a.m. Parish Hall Meeting Room

Presenter: Dr. John Witte, Jr.

The Protestant Reformation, inaugurated by Martin Luther 500 years ago, was a revolutionary movement. It transformed theology, worship, catechesis, and church life. It revolutionized art, music, literature, architecture, iconography, and aesthetics. It transformed economics,

trade, commerce, banking, colonization, and more. It unleashed radical new campaigns for freedom and equality, democracy and constitutional order, sometimes triggering violent political rejoinders. And the Reformation caused a massive shift of power, property, and prerogatives from the church to the state, together with major reforms to the laws of family, education, and social welfare. This class will offer a brisk tour of this kaleidoscopic impact of the Reformation and the implications of this movement for us still today.

*John Witte, Jr., a member of St. Bart's, is Robert W. Woodruff University Professor of Law and Director of the Law and Religion Center at Emory University. He has published 30 books and 250 articles, and lectured throughout the world.*

### **What to Listen For...**

November 19, 9:30 a.m., Parish Hall Meeting Room  
Presenter: Mr. Shannon Gallier, Organist Choirmaster, St Bartholomew's

Join Organist-Choirmaster Shannon Gallier in an overview of music for the Advent and Christmas Seasons. Shannon will explain what goes into it all – and how music fits into the church and the greater scheme of building God's Kingdom. Learn how music is chosen and rehearsed. Listen to examples of choral music with explanation of compositional style. Learn the history of various styles of music and about composers featured through Advent & Christmas. Attending this class will enhance your musical and spiritual experience of Advent & Christmas.

### **Advent Event for all Ages**

Sunday before Advent One  
November 26, 9:30 a.m., Parish Hall and Meeting Room

The season of Advent is a time for waiting and preparation to come close to the mystery of the Incarnation of our Lord, Christmas! Please join in to mark this season as its own, and get ready in your heart for Christmas.

Here are some of the things you can do on this fun day:

- Make an ADVENT WREATH for your home—bring greens and cutters. Kits available for \$10, sets of candles for \$5. Pins are provided. If you have your wreath base from last year, please recycle it and bring it with you!

### **Word in Words Book Group**

2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of each month, 7:30–9:00 p.m., The Library

Mark the 2nd Monday night of each month on your calendar and join other St. Bart's readers throughout the year for fun and interesting discussion. We stick to books available in paperback, mostly fiction. You do not need a reservation, and we welcome you to join us on a regular basis or whenever you see a title that interests you. Contact Molly Mitchell ([gghmm1951@gmail.com](mailto:gghmm1951@gmail.com)) for more information. Upcoming books include "The Boy Who Went Away" by Eli Gottleib; "Lovers at the Chameleon Club" by Francine Prose; and "Cover Her Face" by P. D. James.

### **The Amerson House Spirituality Center**

A ministry of St. Bartholomew's, **Amerson House Spirituality Center** sponsors workshops and retreats throughout the year. Please watch the monthly newsletter and the website, [www.amersonhouse.org](http://www.amersonhouse.org) for announcements of upcoming events and descriptions of the space. Amerson House offers **Centering Prayer, Weekly Dream Group, a weekly Mandala Group** and other classes and retreats. Space can be booked for personal retreat and renewal time by parishioners and people in the diocese. Spiritual Direction available during personal retreat by arrangement. Contact [amersonhouse@gmail.com](mailto:amersonhouse@gmail.com).

### **Are you a Seeker? Wanting to explore confirmation? Or just considering your readiness to go deeper into Christianity? This is for you!**

Beginning January 2018. Email Beverley Elliott, [beverley@stbartsatlanta.org](mailto:beverley@stbartsatlanta.org) to express your interest.

This is an 8 session series to respond to your inner prompts to explore your faith. Marcus Borg's book, *The Heart of Christianity*, will guide us as well as Archbishop Rowan Williams' work on the Bible, and the BCP Catechism.

Marcus Borg writes "being Christian is not very much about believing in the sense of believing the right things. That is a relatively recent distortion of Christianity. Christianity is not about "right beliefs." It is

## OTHER OPPORTUNITIES

### **Contemplative Christian Meditation (aka Centering Prayer)**

Tuesdays 6:15 – 7:15 p.m. , Amerson House  
Facilitator: The Rev. Beverley Elliott with others

Centering Prayer is a method of silent prayer where the purpose is to rest in God, receive God as God is, and allow God to do in us that which needs to be done. Basic instruction with discussion, will be given each session, followed by 20 minutes of silent prayer. Time will be made to explore prayer and the contemplative life in general. Newcomers are very welcome. Contact [beverley@stbartsatlanta.org](mailto:beverley@stbartsatlanta.org), (404) 634 3336 Ext 223, for details.

### **Education for Ministry (EfM)**

Beginning September 11, 2017  
Mondays 6:30 - 9:00 p.m., Brooks Room

Education for Ministry, EfM, is a four-year seminar in Christianity for adults covering Old Testament, New Testament, Church History, Theology and Ethics. Participants, who commit for one year at a time, are a small group of fellow seekers who meet every week over the academic year. Through worship, theological reflection, and sharing, we present the fruits of our studies. In so doing we grapple with questions of faith and prepare and find support for active participation in the ministry of the Christian life. We still have room for more fellow-seekers for the journey. For more information, please contact Marcia King at [marciaking721@gmail.com](mailto:marciaking721@gmail.com) or 404-248-0825.

### **St. Bartholomew's Women's Spirituality Book Group**

THIRD Monday night of each month, 7:00–8:30 p.m.,  
The Library

All women from St. Bartholomew's and the community are invited to attend, regularly or occasionally. The group chooses readings (and sometimes a movie) to spur discussion about all areas of modern life. For more information, please contact Marian Gordin ([mkgordin@comcast.net](mailto:mkgordin@comcast.net) or 404-433-6656).

- GIFTS FOR TOCO HILLS COMMUNITY ALLIANCE will be wrapped.  
BUY BOOKS, GIFTS and ADVENT RESOURCES: The Cathedral Book Store will bring materials to sell and a percentage of sales will go to support the Children's Formation Program.

### **The Advent Lyrics in Old English**

December 3, 10, 17  
9: 30 a.m., Parish Hall Meeting Room  
Presenter Dr. Jim Morey

Old English was spoken in England from the mid-fifth century to well beyond the Norman Conquest in 1066. About 30,000 lines of Old English poetry survive, including a set of poems known as the Advent Lyrics which correspond to the O Antiphons sung by the St. Bartholomew's choir. This three part class will introduce the basics of Old English pronunciation, grammar, and syntax, and we shall read as many of the Advent Lyrics as we can. They are the first items in a unique manuscript at Exeter Cathedral in Cornwall, the so-called Exeter Book copied *circa* 1000, that is the most extensive anthology of Old English poetry.

*Jim Morey is a longtime member of St Bartholomew's and Professor of English at Emory University.*

*"Lifelong Christian Faith Formation in The Episcopal Church is lifelong growth in the knowledge, service and love of God as followers of Christ and is informed by scripture, tradition and reason."*

The Charter for Christian Formation, 2009, National Episcopal Church

## WEDNESDAY EVENING PROGRAMS

### ***Living into God's Dream, Dismantling Racism in America – A book study***

September 13, 27, October 11, 18

6:30 p.m. – 7:45 p.m., Parish Hall Meeting Room

Facilitators: Range of parish members

This small book, edited by Dr. Catherine Meeks, a leader in our diocese, seeks to be an instrument of God's racial healing and justice making. Our bishop Rob Wright and his writer wife Beth Wright have chapters along with Dr. Meeks. The other authors, black and white, are a diverse group "animated by a fierce and tender love for humankind wounded by the sin of racism". They share the conviction that God can show us a way through. May it open up the next steps for us, the Community of St. Bart's. Books available for \$20 in the parish hall and office or through an on line store.

### ***Discerning Your Spiritual Gifts – A Workshop***

October 18, 25, Nov 1, 8, 15, 29

6:30 p.m. – 8 p.m., Parish Hall Meeting Room

Facilitators: Shirley Lee and Bill Sanford

According to the author of *Discerning Your Spiritual Gifts*, Episcopal priest Lloyd Edwards, there has been a major gap in Christian teaching. Edwards says, "We have helped people learn the lore of the faith. We have helped them practice moral living. We have helped them solve their problems of living, to pray, to nurture loving relationships. And yet we have *not* helped them find precisely what it is that God made them for, what it is that will give them the most profound joy imaginable." In this workshop based on the book, we will seek to discern our spiritual gifts through various exercises and reflections and shed light on our unique calls. Come find yours.

*Shirley Lee is a 7 year member of St. Bart's. She has been active in many and various ministries and served on the vestry as Evangelism Chair, Stewardship Chair, and Junior Warden.*

*Shirley is a teacher of our children a part of the Tuesday night Centering Prayer group, greeter, Shepherd and Sunflower Companion.... and still broadening her ministries. Safe to say, Shirley loves the church and sharing it with others. She is excited to be sharing the lead with Bill.*

*Bill Sanford was baptized at St. Bart's, was confirmed here, and grew up in the youth group. Bill and his wife, Connie, live in the Smoke Rise with their youngest son who attends the Paideia School. Their middle son is a junior at Auburn and their oldest lives in St. Louis where he works for Enterprise Rent-A-Car and recently got engaged to be married. After being away from St. Bart's for quite some time, Bill returned in early 2014 and has decided that this class was a great chance to become more involved especially after leading a session of "God Goes to the Movies". He looks forward to connecting with many of you.*

### ***Advent Bible Study***

December 6, 13

6:30 p.m. – 7:45 p.m., Parish Hall Meeting Room

Presenter: Beverley Elliott and others.

Join others as we reflect on and pray with some of the scriptures from Advent.