



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 2019**

### *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**

August 11, 9:30 a.m.

The Meeting Room

Come hear our teachers and facilitators talk about upcoming classes they will lead. Ask questions. Discuss what is important for you as you attend to your growth and formation as a disciple of Christ.

**Lessons from the Cape Coast, Ghana**

**August 18 9:30 a.m. The Meeting Room**

Presenters: Mother Angela Shepherd, Paul and Peggy Courtright

In April our presenters joined a group from across the diocese to visit Cape Coast, Ghana, a former hub of the transatlantic slave trade. An annual tradition in the Diocese of Atlanta, the Ghana Pilgrimage offers the opportunity to confront one of the ugliest facets of American history: chattel slavery and the devastating repercussions of institutionalized racism for subsequent generations in both Western Africa (How does racism exist in Western Africa? If it does exist, their definition would not be equivalent to ours) and the Americas.

The pilgrimage also included visiting various congregations in the Diocese of Cape Coast as the guests of Bishop Victor Atta Baffoe, discovering the importance of women's ministry, and talking with seminarians. The Diocese of Cape Coast is our companion diocese and with that is a desire for congregations to establish relationships with one another. In this time the pilgrims will share their stories. (Read an article about the trip here: <https://tinyurl.com/StB818>)



### **Who was St Bartholomew?**

**August 25, 9:30 a.m. The Meeting Room**

Presenter: Dr. John Roberts

As a community we often lament that not much is known about our Patron Saint Bartholomew. John has done research which reveals just how many quests to know him there have been.

### **Touching on things Sabbatical**

**September 1, 9:30 a.m. The Meeting Room**

Presenter: The Rev. Beverley Elliott

This past summer Beverley was enabled to take a 3 month sabbatical. In this time of reporting back she will explore the nature of Sabbath and sabbaticals in general; reflect on the unexpected grace of time to attend to her mother's death and final affairs and

Beverley's grief; and report on her reading in her professional interest in pastoral care of folk living with dementia.

### **Prepared, Not Scared. Be Ready for Disasters!**

**September 8 & 15 9:30 a.m. The Meeting Room**

Presenters: St. Bart's Emergency Response Team

National Preparedness Month is recognized each September to promote family and community disaster and emergency planning throughout the year. This year's theme is "Prepared, Not Scared. Be Ready for Disasters."

### **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)*

*Sunday, September 8*, will focus on family preparedness, a simple way you can influence the outcome of a disaster. Before you can help others, you must first be prepared to help yourself and your family. We will also discuss building your family's resilience to disaster by addressing Do you have a communication plan? Do your children know what to do in case of an emergency at home? Have you thought about what to keep in an emergency kit or what to do with your pets? Do you know when to shelter in place or evacuate? Helpful resources will be shared.

*Sunday, September 15*, will focus on church preparedness. Why do we have a security system? What's up with the walkie talkies that vergers and ushers are wearing? Where do we send emergency first responders if we call 911? What practices are in place to make sure our people are safe during the week and during services? We will also address church resilience and introduce and some of the actions the Emergency Response Team has and will take as we continue a spirit of hospitality while attempting to protect the people who work and worship at St. Bart's.

### **Pursuing God's Peaceable Kingdom: Discovering and Living a Rule for Life**

**September 22 9:30 a.m. The Meeting Room**

Presenter: John-Magdalene Age

John is a contemplative solitary who, as a monastic or solitary, has been living according to a Rule and Vows for ten years.

"One of the great treasures learned, living both in monastic community and as a contemplative solitary, has been living intentionally through a framework called Rule for life. Be it simple or complex, a personal Rule is a creative self-expression which serves as a structure to define and support an intentional life in discipleship. It can both attend

### **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/>

### **A Prayer attributed to St. Francis**

Lord, make us instruments of your peace. Where there is hatred, let us sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is discord, union; where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light; where there is sadness, joy. Grant that we may not so much seek to be consoled as to console; to be understood as to understand; to be loved as to love. For it is in giving that we receive; it is in pardoning that we are pardoned; and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life. *Amen.*

to the inner life and the world around us, to build God's Peaceable Kingdom. With a little prayer, a little meditation, a little conversation, and a little fun, we will explore ways with which to develop a personal Rule that looks to our transformation and participation in God's Peaceable Kingdom"

### **A Christian Response to Climate Change September 29, October 6 9:30 a.m. The Meeting Room**

Presenter: Pete DeBruin

World-wide climate change resulting from human activity looms as the number one issue confronting humankind today. Through our faith we can understand our responsibilities more clearly and act more effectively in addressing this grave issue. In this class we will discuss the interconnected causes, and consolidate personal, economic, political and scientific perspectives into a spiritually meaningful and durable course of action.

### **Theological Reflections on Images of Christ October 13 & 20 9:30 a.m. The Meeting Room**

Presenter: Robin Schreiber

All of the arts have produced images of Jesus even though we do not know how he actually looked. What are these images really saying about Jesus the Christ? How have those images changed over the centuries? We will take a quick look at the fascinating variety of these images and even the ones we use at St. Bartholomew's and see what we can discover.

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**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 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.

### **Women's Spirituality Group: JOY, Even Now**

**Every Other Friday, 10 am-Noon**

*September 13-December 6 (7 sessions)*

A seasonal spiritual formation group for women to share our authentic lives and seek to grow in wisdom, compassion, purpose and joy.

### ***I've Got Your Type* Enneagram Dinners**

**Thursdays, 6:30 pm**

*August 22 - Sevens*

*October 10*

*November 21*

A creative, type-specific meal curated by a professional chef, and a rich conversation about what it's like to be YOU in all your delightful Enneagram particularity.

### **Faith and Politics Potluck Dinners**

**Sundays, 5 pm** *August 4 ,September 15 ,November 3*

A shared meal and conversation about how our faith shapes our politics, practicing the art of sharing our own convictions while listening reverently to others.

To sign up for groups and events, call or email Kimberly at 404-275-3328 or [kbroerman@yahoo.com](mailto:kbroerman@yahoo.com)

For more information, or to sign up for Kimberly's mailing list, visit [www.kimberlybroerman.com](http://www.kimberlybroerman.com)

### **Understanding Our Transgender and Non-Binary Neighbors**

**October 27 9:30 a.m. The Meeting Room**

Presenters: The Rev. Linda Herzer, author of *The Bible and the Transgender Experience*, and Gabrielle Claiborne, named Atlanta's Best Trans Activist 2015.

The conversation begins as we discover our cultural assumptions around gender and recognize how these assumptions impact understanding of, and comfort with, gender diverse individuals. Definitions of important trans-related terms and identities will satisfy your head's need for knowledge, while personal stories from trans and non-binary individuals, and their loved ones, will develop your heart's empathy.

### ***Uppity Women of the Bible: Judith***

**November 3, 10, 17 9:30 a.m. The Meeting Room**

Presenter: Nedra Roberts

In this final installment of our exploration of women scripture, we take a look at Judith, a woman who took things into her own hands—including the head of a brutal warrior chief. In the video Rev. Dr. Lisa M. Wolfe takes you on a tour of the Book of Judith, posing provocative questions along the way. Judith, from the Koine Greek version of the Hebrew Old Testament, reads like a historical novel rife with warfare, lust, espionage and intrigue. The class will take you from a mythological battlefield and a besieged city into the studio and psyche of the Baroque painter Artemesia Gentileschi. Dr. Wolfe's style is a refreshing balance of careful scholarship and a genuine love for the story of this amazing woman.

### **Talking about Leadership as a Ministry in the Church – Part 1**

**November 24 9:30 a.m. The Meeting Room**

Presenter: Bobbi Geery, Senior Warden

## **Advent Intergenerational Wreath Making Event & Book Sale**

**December 1 9:30 a.m. – 10:20 a.m. The Meeting Room and Parish Hall**

Prepare for the Advent season by making your own Advent wreath in this activity for all ages. Wreath base and candles are available for purchase—or bring your own. Please bring pine or other greenery from yard to share if you have any. The Cathedral Bookstore will set up in the Meeting Room with seasonal reading material, Advent calendars, and gifts for sale. There will be opportunities to write Christmas greetings to members who are not able to come to church. Dec. 1 is World AIDS Day. There will be an opportunity to include red ribbons in our wreaths.

## **Talking about Leadership as a Ministry in the Church – Part 2**

**December 8 9:30 a.m. The Meeting Room**  
Presenter: Bobbi Geery, Senior Warden

## **Poet Laureate of St. Bart's: A Conversation with Ken Lockerman**

**December 15 9:30 a.m. The Meeting Room**  
Presenters: Nedra and John Roberts

Long-time Bartian Ken Lockerman has fondly been called “the poet laureate of St. Bart’s.” His poems are well-known and well-loved among parishioners, and far beyond as well. Nedra and John interviewed Ken recently about his poetry and the myriad links to St. Bart’s, and Raz Schreiber videotaped/edited the conversation. We will view and discuss the film and, if possible, have Ken himself present to answer questions and read some poems.

Check out the website at [www.episcopalchurch.org/sacred-ground](http://www.episcopalchurch.org/sacred-ground). **Introductory session, September 5, 2019, at 6:30 pm. In the Meeting Room.**

For further information, contact Kerry Lockerman at [KerryLockerman@gmail.com](mailto:KerryLockerman@gmail.com) or Shirley Lee at [shirleylee@icloud.com](mailto:shirleylee@icloud.com).

## **AMERSON HOUSE SPIRITUALITY CENTER**

The following programs are led by Kimberly Broerman, *Spiritual Director*

There is a cost to these events. Contact Kimberley for details.

### **Sacred Pause Retreats**

Seasonal mini-retreats invite participants to join in sacred silence, reflection, and conversation to listen for the still, small voice of the Beloved.

***Fall Retreat - What is Mine to Do? The***

### ***Sacred Art of Discernment***

Sunday, September 8, 12:30-3:30 pm

### ***Advent Quiet Night***

Sunday, December 15, 5:30-8:30 pm

Contact [beverley@stbartsatlanta.org](mailto:beverley@stbartsatlanta.org) (404) 634 3336 Ext 223, for details.

*\*Beginning September 10 for 6 weeks a DVD based introduction and reboot to the centering prayer practice will be shown and discussed.*

## WEDNESDAYS

**Exploring the upcoming Sunday Bible Readings**  
**Wednesday mornings 10:30 a.m. – 11:45 a.m. beginning**  
**August 14**

Facilitators: Ms Anne Salter, Rev Beverley Elliott and others

Intimidated by the Bible? Does it seem too distant, too difficult to understand, and too long? This fall this weekly Bible study will take a reading from the upcoming Sunday and dig into it from a historical literary and art point of view to see what it could mean for your life today. Register by emailing Beverley ([beverley@stbartsatlanta.org](mailto:beverley@stbartsatlanta.org)). All Welcome.

## THURSDAYS

**Sacred Ground : A film and reading based dialogue series on race grounded in faith.**  
**Second Thursday evenings of the month beginning October**  
**6:30 pm. The Meeting Room**

Sacred Ground is St. Bartholomew's next step in our journey toward racial healing. It is a 10-session curriculum, developed by The Episcopal Church that will be offered once a month, starting in October 2019. The curriculum includes documentary films, short videos, and reading material available for free in a password-protected area of the website. Other resources include study guides, session-by-session reflections on key themes, and tips for facilitators. Sacred Ground focuses on "Indigenous, Black, Latino, and Asian American histories as they intersect with European American stories".

## UPCOMING WEDNESDAY CLASSES

### 6:30 P.M. (DINNER AT 5:30)

***Creation and the Cross - The Mercy of God for a Planet in Peril:***  
**Part of Wednesday book discussion series**  
**August 14 & 21 6:30 p.m. The Meeting Room**

Presenter: Dr. John Roberts

"Creation and the Cross" is the title of the new book by eminent Catholic theologian Elizabeth Johnson. We will discuss her ideas over two Wednesdays, facilitated by Dr. John Roberts. Johnson begins by dismantling Anselm's influential interpretation (known as Satisfaction or Penal Substitution) of Christ's death; then, she applies her enlarged understanding of salvation to all of Creation, emphasizing our responsibility to help redeem and protect the natural world.

For parishioners who don't have time to buy and read the book in preparation, here are two shorter (and free) aids, a seven-page print interview and a 45-minute audio interview:

<https://www.uscatholic.org/articles/201811/no-one-had-die-our-sins-31563>

<https://soundcloud.com/fordhamnotes/elizabeth-johnson-on-creation-and-the-cross>

**How to Read the Bible and Still Be a Christian:  
Struggling with Violence in Scripture  
August 28, September 4, 11, 18, 25  
Facilitators: St. Bartholomew parishioners**

In this video-based discussion series, professor and author John Dominic Crossan summarizes the essence of his bestseller *How to Read the Bible and Still Be a Christian: Struggling with Divine Violence from Genesis Through Revelation*, and shows the way forward for those seeking an authentic Christianity for the 21st century. Reading the book is helpful but not required for this series.

**Augustine's Confessions: Part of Wednesday evening book discussion series  
October 2, 9, 16 6:30 p.m. The Meeting Room  
Presenter: Edgar Randolph**

The son of a pagan father and a Christian mother, Saint Augustine spent his early years torn between conflicting faiths and world views. His Confessions, recount how, slowly and painfully, he came to turn away from his youthful ideas and licentious lifestyle, to become instead a staunch advocate of Christianity and one of its most influential thinkers. A remarkably honest and revealing spiritual autobiography, the Confessions also address fundamental issues of Christian doctrine, and many of the prayers and meditations it includes are still an integral part of the practice of Christianity today. This book study will be based on the Penguin Classics edition (translated by Gary Wills).

**Women's Spirituality Book Group**

Third Monday of each month, 7:00-8:30pm, in The Library. We choose from a wide range of books, articles, and essays, and the occasional movie to explore women's lives and the world in which we live. Over the past few months we studied a wonderful new history of the U.S. called THESE TRUTHS by Jill Lepore, and we highly recommend it to anyone who wants a fresh and brilliant look at how we became the country we are today. Watch for announcements of new selections for the fall. For more information, contact Marian Gordin, [mkgordin@comcast.net](mailto:mkgordin@comcast.net).

**Word in Words Book Group**

Second Monday of each month, 7:00-8:30pm, in The Library (note new start time). We read books, mostly fiction, chosen by the group. No reservations necessary. Come whenever the selection interests you. For more information, contact Molly Mitchell, [ggmm1951@gmail.com](mailto:ggmm1951@gmail.com). August 12 the book is *PARIS IN THE PRESENT TENSE* by Mark Helprin. On September 9, the selection is *IMPROVEMENT* by Joan Silber

**TUESDAYS**

**Contemplative Centering Prayer  
Tuesdays 6:15 – 7:15 p.m.  
Amerson House Spirituality Center**

Facilitator : The Rev Beverley Elliott and others  
Centering Prayer is a method of silent prayer where the purpose is to rest in God and receive God as God is. 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. Newcomer's very welcome.  
Contact [beverley@stbartsatlanta.org](mailto:beverley@stbartsatlanta.org) 404)634 3336 Ext 223, for details.

OTHER OPPORTUNITIES FOR  
CLASSES AND WORKSHOPS

## SUNDAYS

### **Dream Group**

**Sundays, 1:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.**

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

Framing our time together with prayer, silence and brief conversation on dream work, the group shares and discusses the energy and meaning of dream images as a way of listening to and honoring God's desire for us to grow ever more fully into wholeness. The dream reflection method is based on Haden Institute methods and Jungian psychology. The methods sparks insights for all participants, while protecting the privacy of the dreamer.

Trained dream group facilitators rotate leading the weekly gatherings. Newcomers welcome but it is necessary to speak with Julie Boulee on 404)512 5760 or email [julieboulee@gmail.com](mailto:julieboulee@gmail.com) before hand.

## MONDAYS

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

Beginning September 9

Mondays 6:30 - 9:00 p.m. The 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. Scholarships available.

### **Oct 23 - Being Community: Creating Pathways to Peace**

We live in a time of anxiety, uncertainty, and fear which can impact daily living. The Rev. Dr. Valori Mulvey Sherer and Mr. Martin Darby discuss concrete ways our church can model the servant leadership of Jesus Christ and promote unity while honoring diversity within our parish and in our local context.

### **Book Study: The Bible and the Transgender Experience - How Scripture Supports Gender Variance**

**October 30, November 6, 13, 20 6:30 p.m. The Meeting Room**

**Presenter: The Rev. Dr. Angela Shepherd**

This book by the Linda Herzer explores: Whether or not God creates only two genders; what Jesus had to say about gender variance; various understandings of "the cross-dressing passage"; gender variant groups and individuals in scripture; and the movement, within scripture itself, from the exclusion of gender variant people to their inclusion within the people of God. The last session will include The National Observance of the Transgender Day of Remembrance, time and place to be announced. The author will provide books for purchase in advance.

**Wednesday November 27 - No dinner or class**