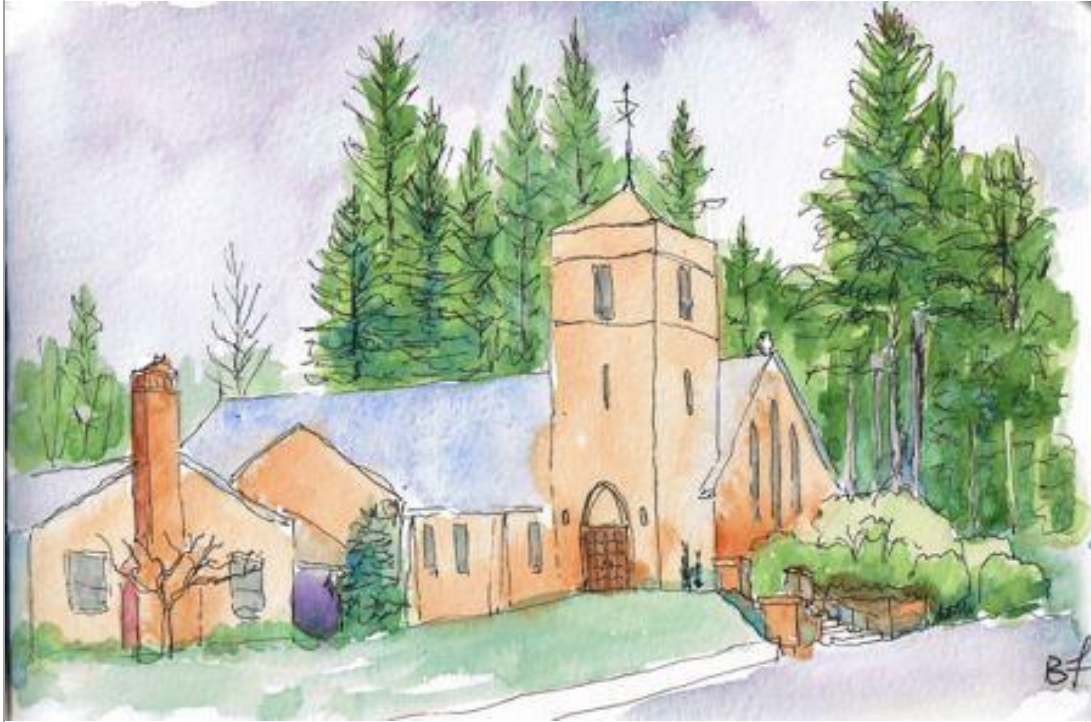


SAINT BARNABAS EPISCOPAL CHURCH
BAINBRIDGE ISLAND, WASHINGTON



**2013
ANNUAL
REPORT**

*"Reaching out through prayer, worship and action to bring the reconciling
peace of Christ to one another and this world."*

A faith community in the Episcopal Diocese of Olympia

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**SAINT BARNABAS EPISCOPAL CHURCH
ANNUAL MEETING AGENDA
JANUARY 26, 2014**

| | |
|---|-------------------------------------|
| Opening Prayer | Dennis Tierney |
| Welcome and Introductions | Dennis Tierney |
| Rector's Report | Dennis Tierney |
| Senior Warden's Report | Tom Beierle |
| Finance Committee Report/2014 Budget | Dennis Tierney |
| Voting on Vestry Members | Tom Beierle |
| Voting on Diocesan Convention Delegates | Tom Beierle |
| Recognition of Meritorious Service | Dennis Tierney |
| "The Year in Review" | All of Us (with Kristen O'Keefe) |
| Benediction | Dennis Tierney |

Letter from the Rector

January 2014

Dear Ones,

A year ago, we were in the midst of uncertainty and some angst over the outcome of the kitchen project. Through hard work, patience, teeth-gnashing, sotto-voce cursing, and the power of the Holy Spirit, we completed this complex project in early October of 2013. To say that it took far longer than expected is a classic understatement. I was in despair more than once over this project but now that it is largely in our rear-view mirror, it already seems less painful than it did in the midst of the process. I believe that we do have a kitchen for the next fifty years and one that will open up new ministries for us in ways that we cannot fully understand right now. We have already seen increased interest in our facility from a wide variety of groups and individuals and we expect that to grow over time.

Our Sunday attendance suffered somewhat during this process but it increased once the project was completed and our pledge campaign for 2014 was very successful – the best campaign in recent years. We continue to attract new members to the parish and we have made our facility more available to the larger community – we have extended our threshold far beyond our borders and we have invited many people to partake of the spirituality embedded in this special place. They have accepted with joy and delight.

Financially, we have managed our resources very well and kept our expenses under control. We are healthy financially and have attended to our maintenance needs over the year. We do need to repay our endowment fund and we must attend to the long-term needs of the parish but your vestry is clearly aware of the need for continued long-range planning.

The parish is blessed with a dedicated and stable group of employees who make so many things happen. I give thanks daily for the dedication and skill of Paul Roy, Julie Houck, Katrina Diller, Fred Meredith, and Carole Hedderly-Smith. They are wonderful to work with and give unstintingly of their time and talents to Saint Barnabas. We are also blessed with dedicated volunteers without whom this parish could not function. Each Sunday, it takes worship leaders, choir members, altar guild members, Sunday School teachers, ushers, and greeters to hold worship here. While we can always use new volunteers, we are blessed by those who serve quietly and regularly throughout the year.

Over all, I believe that Saint Barnabas is in a very healthy place – spiritually, organizationally, and financially. I know that we are better off than a number of other Episcopal parishes and many other churches in other denominations. The spirit of the congregation appears healthy to me and I do not sense underlying angst or displeasure. The problems that we face are generally good problems. Our financial challenges are part of being church in the Pacific Northwest.

I am pleased to continue to serve as your rector, now in my seventh year of service. Grace and I have been welcomed into so many homes, included in so many family events, invited to concerts, recitals, baseball games, and lectures, and, through all these connections, we have been nurtured by your faith. When my own faith has faltered, it is your deep commitment to our church that has inspired and restored me. I have seen the face of Christ in so many of you and I have seen wondrous things happen through your collective faith and dedication. This ministry life at Saint Barnabas has been the most challenging and rewarding work I have ever done. I am blessed profoundly by you all and deeply grateful for the trust you have reposed in me.

In Christ,

The Rev. Dr. Dennis S. Tierney
January 10, 2014

Senior Warden's Report

I suppose Senior Wardens have existed in the Episcopal Church since the time of Henry VIII, and some may have lost their heads as a result of concurring in the translation of the Bible into English, or other equally inconceivable and heretical activities. It seemed a good idea therefore, to keep my concept of the duties of the Senior Warden rather vague, so there would be maneuvering room when an accounting for my activities needed to be made.

I have tried to keep my head, yet serve the interests of both the Rector and the congregation in being, as Fr. Dennis calls it, as "The Rector's Warden." I am happy to report that I have taken full advantage of the opportunities to have an audience on a fairly regular basis with our Rector, and we have had many fine conversations, many about St. Barnabas and its current state, and many also about sundry other topics of interest to us.

I am confident to report to you that, in my estimation, we have a Rector who remains faithfully and fully committed to our well-being, and who seems totally satisfied, and fulfilled, with serving our parish and individual needs. He has also a firm belief that St. Barnabas, through its various commissions, and many of its committed parishioners, is increasingly serving the wider needs of our community in ways that are consistent with the fundamental teachings of our faith and our Church. He has, I believe, great pride in what we are doing, and what we have become.

It is my observation that this has been a year of tremendous growth in the sense of who we are as a congregation, and what we can be as a part of our community.

In some ways, it seems that the angst over the kitchen/parish hall project, the frustrations of executing those plans, and the joy of re-entering those spaces has resulted in the parish family strengthening its personal ties. Think about all the lovely morning coffee hours out on the entry patio. People weren't running for their cars, they were standing around talking and making a serious effort at getting to know one another. When we finally got to enjoy the new facility, it seemed people relished it. One Sunday shortly before Christmas, I noticed that an hour after the service ended, there were still about 20 people drinking the dregs of coffee, and eating the last crumbs of Bette Angell's scones, and still gabbing. This kind of camaraderie is so nourishing of the things we and Fr. Dennis are trying to be and become.

In this connection, it is also worth mentioning the Supper Clubs, which have been a remarkable success. As a bit of a foodie, I enjoy all the new dishes, but hasn't the socializing over the dinner table been a great experience? We really are a parish full of interesting and talented people, and this is a great way to come to appreciate and build real friendships with people, many of whom we have known all too superficially.

Finally, I think, with Fr. Dennis' prodding and leadership, we are becoming an institution within the community of Bainbridge Island as we reach out and offer our resources and

the talents of our people to the community. I am sure others will report on this, but to my thinking, the making of music within the sanctuary of St. Barnabas, with its architectural beauty, its fine acoustics and magnificent organ, has been and will become more of a community treasure. I think of the several concerts I have attended in the cathedrals and parish churches in Paris; what a wonderful way for us to share with the wider community who we are, and what we stand for.

The music is outreach at its best, but we also need to remember how so many of our congregation members give of their time to deliver to those who are in nursing homes the caring strokes of a faith in God, but in an ecumenical way, without proselytizing for our particular faith.

In a nutshell, I think we have become a caring, nurturing force in our community, and have grown even more so this year. My report to you then is that I think we are on the right track, we have the right leader, he has our support, and away we go! “Power on!” as the Rector declared at the end of his sermon two weeks ago.

It’s been a privilege, for which I am very grateful. Thank you for your support of Fr. Dennis, and of one another.

Respectfully—

Tom Beierle

Christian Action Commission Report

Introduction

The Christian Action Commission includes local and international Outreach, as well as Inreach (serving the needs of our Parish). In Outreach, we continue to focus where individual parishioners have committed their efforts and financial support. This approach works well, since those invested in an outreach activity can share the need and results credibly with the Commission and the Parish.

Local Outreach

We continued to participate in an outreach project of the Interfaith Council (see www.bainbridgeinterfaith.info for more information) called **Super Supper**, where churches provide evening meals at a specified location on the last five working days of the month (those in need tend to run low at the end of the month). Ten churches share in this ministry, so that our turn is every other month. Julie Houck and Laurie Fergusson led our team of Parish volunteers this year.

Steve Schmitz has been leading a team of Parish volunteers who serve a dinner every other month at the **Coffee Oasis** in Poulsbo (see thecoffeoasis.com for more information about the general program). This activity occurs on the month we are not doing Super Supper, and Grace Episcopal Church covers the other month. This outreach is a result of Steve's effective interaction with Outreach at Grace.

This year we continued our support of the **St. John's Hispanic Ministry** in Olympia, led by Fr. Don Maddux. Joan Collins is coordinating this. We are helping to support Gustavo and Rosario Portaro. He is the office administrator for the Hispanic Ministry and they both are lay worship leaders and licensed lay preachers who are seeking holy orders. Fr. Maddux reports that the ministry is growing and they had a very active summer program for youth.

Every year we have a **Giving Tree** at Christmas. For the last several years, we have had tags for children (and now adults too) brought to our attention through the Kitsap County Health Department, who are impacted by HIV AIDS in their families, as coordinated by Paul Holzman. Joan Collins and family set up the tree this year, and Paul Holzman filled it with tags. Again the parish was very generous, with donations of gifts and cash totally about \$6000. We provided 183 gifts to 41 households, which included 48 men, 11 women, 12 boys, 6 girls, and 7 cats and dogs. Paul was assisted by Jerry Carlin, Grace Grant, Patrick Hodge, Annie Comstock in getting the gifts ready for delivery, and by Honora Dunkak, Heidi O'Brien, Spencer Alpaugh, Patrick, Drucy, and Phil Hodge, Grace Grant, and Joan Collins and family in delivering the gifts. It's a great example of the Parish's caring for others.

International Outreach

The primary thrust of our international outreach has been the Mongolia project, led by Maggie Ball, and described on her web site (www.dragonflyquilts.com). St. Barnabas continues to host the fund raising account for the **New Way Life Mongolian Quilting Center** in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia. The Center now has a web site (www.mongolianquilts.org). They continued to stay busy in 2013, under the direction of Selenge Tserendash, including teaching courses for unemployed women sponsored by the Mongolian Government. They received funds from sources such as World Vision, and the US and British Embassies, to teach groups of women in the Ger District of Ulaanbaatar and in the rural provinces. This year Maggie obtained a \$2000 Millennium Development Grant from the Diocese of Olympia to assist 5 low income women working at the center. The center's annual budget is around \$40,000-\$50,000, of which about 25% comes from the US through St. Barnabas. In 2013, we sent \$13,300. Besides the director, the center employs a manager, who has been there about 6 months and is doing an excellent job. The center also has a designer, 5 part-time teaches, 3 full-time seamstresses, and about 25-30 women doing piece work. Planning is in the works for the 2014 International Quilt Show in August 2014 to celebrate the 10th anniversary of the Mongolian Quilting Center. Maggie plans to attend this event, and also work on-site with Selenge on evaluating and improving center operations..

Another international outreach program having Parish involvement is **Crop Walk**. The Church World Service operates the Crop Hunger Walks to raise awareness and funds for international relief and development, as well as local hunger-fighting.

Inreach

The Pastoral Care Committee involves a range of services to members of our Parish, including helping the housebound, visiting hospitals, emergency child care, and providing transportation. For more information, contact Serena Dubach, Chair (206-842-6767, sdubach@msn.com). **JOY Luncheons**, led by Robin Cook and her team, bring our seniors together in an elegant setting in the Parish Hall. These were not held 2013 due to the Kitchen Remodeling Project, but will begin again in 2014. The **Christian Reiki Healing Ministry**, led by Reiki Masters Sr. Mary Louise Sulonen, Karen Dumford, and Ric Cederwall, continues to provide healing sessions in the Nursery during the week. This year, 16 team members participated in 81 Reiki sessions. Sister Mary Louise has taught the team how to use tuning forks to enhance the energy work of the session. In February, Sister Mary Louise, Karen, and Ric held a class to bring 8 of our team members up to the level of Reiki Master.

Financial Summary

2013 Income \$19,246 2013 Expense \$18,435

Submitted by Ric Cederwall, Chair (206-855-0900, ric@stanfordalumni.org). Members include Nancy Sias, Dick Gregory, Robin Cook, Joan Collins, Maggie Ball, Carla Orcutt, and Dan Fowler.

Worship Commission Report

The Commission on Worship, in concert with clergy and vestry, provides the Word of the Lord to all those who seek it through scheduled services of music, prayer and Episcopal Liturgy. The members of this Commission are Brian Andvik (usher scheduler), Susan Beecham, Donna Brookfield, Joan Collins (chair), Honora Dunkak (Altar Guild), Deacon Dan Fowler, Dick Gregory, Carla Orcutt (bread bakers), Paul Roy (music), Rev Nancy Tiederman, and Rev Dennis Tierney. Our quarterly meetings are scheduled around the major seasons of the church calendar. The Worship Commission is composed of the following sub-committees: Acolytes/Lectors/Eucharistic Ministers, Altar Guild, Bread Bakers, Choir and Ushers.

Highlights of 2013

In January we made plans for the Lenten, Holy Week and Easter services, which in the mind of some occurred just after the Christmas crèche was put away. We accepted an offer from Anne Pell to lead Sunday evening services with music from various genres. Dennis reported that the Rev Judith McDaniel coordinated discussions between Rev Jan Heller, Nancy and Dan regarding which Sunday reading should be the basis of a sermon. We increased the suggested donation for memorial flowers to \$50. We revisited the recurring question of printing the entire service in leaflet form rather than referring congregants to the Book of Common Prayer. While the prayers for the 8:00 services have fewer changes, the 10:00 prayers change with the church season. The entire service for both times will continue to be printed.

Dan reported his activities at the Wyatt House, MARC and Island Rehab. Music is now provided by Paul, Jan Parker-Peterson and Gabriel Palmer. Parishioners who join the services are Danielle Desaulniers, her sons William and Abe, Carrie Grant and Charlie Anderson. At Wyatt House there were 22 residents who attended the Christmas service of Lessons and Carols, at Island Rehab there were 30.

In May services were planned for Pentecost through Labor Day. Nancy, Paul and Anne Pell planned a special service of a play at 10:00 on Pentecost. Honora reported that with the increased price for flower donations, fewer are signing up; we will return to the \$40 offering. Paul reported that there is a problem with heating under the organ which needs to be fixed, but there is no easy solution at this time. New robes were purchased for lay leaders.

In September services for Christmas were determined. Oct 13 the newly renovated parish hall and kitchen were blessed. Dennis asked the Commission to consider a change in when the Sanctus bells are rung: add a fourth ringing at the Great Amen or only at the latter time. He volunteered to write an article for the Chimes, the members were asked to poll parishioners for their input and a decision will be made at the next meeting. Two priests have retired to Bainbridge Island and regularly attend St Barnabas services. That means that at some services there may be five priests in attendance. Sunday evening

services in our Sanctuary are Compline, Schola Nova and Taize led by other musicians, Amabile also performs. The Altar Guild received donations totaling \$380. We agreed that the Commission will change the meeting day to the fourth Tuesday.

Dan reported that there are currently 35-40 congregants at the three retirement center services. The staff at the new facility, Madrona, asked Dan to hold weekly services there as soon as they received State approval for occupancy.

Lessons and Carols in Advent and Evensong in Lent were offered by the choir. Our choir alumni and guest singers provided additional choral support for major services throughout the year. Paul is seeking additional voices for the bass section.

Submitted by
Joan Collins

Christian Formation Commission Report

Members

Mary Anne Smith (Chair), Susan Boone, Barb Bolles, Barb Herrick, Dennis Tierney

Mission Statement

The Commission on Christian Formation, along with the Vestry and Clergy develops and manages parish programs designed to support each parishioner in their journey of faith.

The Commission will be guided by the following values:

Providing an open atmosphere for spiritual exploration of the Christian faith

Encouraging spiritual growth based on scripture, tradition and reason

Accepting the individuality of spiritual journeys and expressions

Overview

Christian Formation programs continue to provide educational opportunities for parishioners of all ages. We offer Sunday School and Adult Education Classes weekly throughout the school year, Nursery every Sunday during the 10:00 service, youth group programs as interest permits and maintain the parish library. We have a core group of individuals who contribute lots of time and talent, many of whom have been involved for quite some time. 2013 has brought a few changes to our programs, most notably our in our Sunday School and Youth group offerings.

Sunday School

Our Sunday School Program is currently offered at two levels, preschool and primary and attendance varies widely from 3 to 20 children each week. We have continued to expand our Godly Play program with the addition of some beautiful new materials and the introduction of the program in our preschool classroom. Carol Gregory continues to provide the children an opportunity to learn some children's hymns beginning at 9:45 in the parish hall. Barb Bolles organizes our children's participation in our quarterly "Kid's First" Sundays.

Our Preschool class (ages 3 to 6) is currently taught by Alexandra Houchen. This is her third year teaching this class and she and the children have both enthusiastically embraced the godly play program. Support for this classroom is provided by Susan Boone and various parents and grandparents as the need arises.

The Primary class (ages 6 to 10) is taught by a small group of volunteers, supported and scheduled by Susan Boone. Two teachers are required each week, a "story teller" and a "door keeper". Volunteers sign up monthly for the days of their choice. Anyone interested in volunteering should contact Susan Boone at 842-1487. Adults who have volunteered in the classroom this year are: Phil Fergusson, Susan Boone, Stephen Jennings and Karen Carncross, Candace Gudmunson, Rob Gudmundson, Wendy Prust, Robin Cook, Tracy O'Brien and Deb Baker.

Nursery

We offer nursery care for infants from birth through 2 years of age every Sunday throughout the year. Attendance has increased slightly in this program and we consistently have at least 1 child in attendance. Jerry Carlin continues to coordinate this program and schedules nursery workers each Sunday. Audrey Baker is one of our high school students who staff the room.

Youth Group

Our high school youth group attendance dropped during the spring and activities that were scheduled were attended by only one student.

Our intermediate Sunday School program completed their confirmation classes and five students were confirmed at the bishop's visit in June. This group is ready to move onto a youth group program, however, Sam Hadley has stepped down as our youth group coordinator and we have, as yet, been unable to find a replacement. If you are interested in helping out with this program, contact Mary Anne Smith at ruahatu01@gmail.com.

Adult Education

Fr. Dennis continues to offer an adult education program on Thursday evenings on a variety of topics and a Bible Study Class on Thursday mornings. A brief synopsis of the Thursday evening programs offered last year are provided below.

Winter – Spring 2013 Program “Climbing the Sycamore Tree – Choice and Simplicity”

Most commentators on modern American life agree that we are over-scheduled, over-busy, and over-stressed. The demands of a 24/7 economy, a consumerist society, the middle-class fears of falling behind, the baby boomer fears of impoverished retirement or no retirement, and the challenges of a rapidly changing world all conspire to make us tired even with all of our time-saving devices. Finding simplicity has become harder than ever. This class will focus on identifying the factors that rob us of simplicity and, as part of our Lenten discipline, provide us with some ways that we might understand the Christian call to a focused and simple life and some strategies to accomplish greater simplicity in our lives. The title of our class is taken from the story of Zaccheus (Luke 19:1-10). Zaccheus, a tax collector, climbs a tree to see Jesus and Jesus says to him, “Hurry and climb down for I must stay at your house today.” In response to this astonishing offer of hospitality and acceptance, Zaccheus gives much of his fortune away and becomes much happier.

Fall 2013 Program “Wisdom Literature of the Old Testament”

It seems peculiar to talk about certain books of the Bible as “Wisdom Literature.” One might think the whole Bible is about wisdom, so how could some books deserve this designation and others not? We might think that some books of the Bible are odd or confusing or boring, but we generally presume that all books of the Bible contain Wisdom.

The term, “Wisdom Literature” is used by biblical scholars to categorize several books of the Old Testament and the Apocrypha or deuterion-canonical part of the Bible because these books focus on sayings of wisdom that teach about God and about virtue and godliness in daily life. Unlike the Pentateuch, the telling of the founding, enslavement, and freeing of the Jewish people and unlike the histories that tell the complicated story of Israel after arriving in the Promised Land, the Wisdom books are compilations of wise sayings, proverbs, observations, and stories of people living wisely and unwisely. Other cultures in the Ancient World had their own “wisdom literature” and the biblical authors likely knew these works and borrowed from them.

The Book of Job, Psalms, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, the Song of Songs, and the Wisdom of Solomon and Sirach or Ecclesiasticus comprise the body of biblical literature known as “Wisdom Literature.” This fall, we will undertake an examination of these books. We will begin with Job, and then work our way through Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, and the Song of Songs. Then we will turn to the deuterion-canonical books of Wisdom of Solomon and Sirach and, finally, conclude with the Book of Psalms.

Library

Barb Herrick maintains our parish library. Our library is a terrific resource for the parish and provides access to spiritual reading material and DVD’s for all ages. It is located at the end of the hall across from The Room with a View. A few people use the library a lot and many use it occasionally. We welcome donations of books you have read and would like to share with others. The library is used for Adult Education and various meetings. It is open for your use any time the church is open. Please feel free to come in, peruse the shelves, check out a book, or just sit and gather in the quiet surroundings in a comfortable chair.

Fellowship Commission Report

Due to the ongoing renovations in the church kitchen, the only fellowship event for 2013 was the All Parish Picnic. Held on Sunday, July 21st, at Strawberry Hill Park, the picnic was a great success. The sun took it's time appearing, but there was no rain. Thanks to a great committee of Margaret Atwood and Joan Collins, as well as a plethora of other volunteers, planning, setup and clean up were very easy. Deli sandwich fixings were provided in lieu of grilling hot dogs and hamburgers. This eliminated the concern of small people running into hot grills. Many people volunteered to make shortcakes to bring to go with the strawberries that had been previously prepared. Many people brought delicious sides to go with the sandwiches. Peter Spencer once again entertained all with his lovely guitar and voice. The picnic was very well attended by about 75 people.

Providing a loving, inclusive community where each child is important, and where children learn about kindness, friendship and self.

Every child is important and deserves a complete loving first experience at learning.

St. Barnabas Day School
Annual Report

St. Barnabas Day School is feeling a turn-around in the economy. Two out of the three classes are at capacity. The Day School continues to have continuity in its programs and staffing, and it appears that the economic downturn is over. The Day School is enjoying the classroom space and so happy to have the consistent warmth due to the new heat pump. Thank you!

Financially, the school is doing well. Our classrooms of happy children are mostly full. We continue to offer one Pre-Kindergarten (4-5 yrs. old), one Preschool (3-4 yrs. old) and two Barnabear (2 ½-3 yrs. old) classes. This year we are enjoying our new schedule and we are pleased with the responses from the families. Pre-Kindergarten (4-5 yrs. old) meets 3 days a week for 4 hours/day, Preschool(3-4 yrs. old) meets 2 days a week for 3 hours/day and Barnabear (2 ½-3 yrs. old) continues to meet 1-2 days a week for 2 hours/day. This new schedule began in the September 2013. We are happy to announce that our scholarship funds have been replenished through the wreath and garland fundraising. We are thankful for the excellent community and downtown support for our fundraising. The wreath and garland sale was a great success this year, in no small part due to the support of the parish.

The children continue to enjoy monthly chapel with Father Dennis and they had Christmas pageants for the 3-5 year old students in December. It is wonderful to see them feel so comfortable at St. Barnabas, not only in our classrooms but expanding their social awareness through the St. Barnabas halls and Chapel as well.

Barb Boulware
Day School Director and Registrar