

Wednesday Information - April 28, 2021

Dear friends,

“Changes are temporary; change is permanent.” This saying can be applied to our current situation, especially when we reflect on the year that has been. The changes wrought by Covid have been numerous and have required a great deal of adjustment in our lives and relationships. With yesterday’s announcement by the CDC, the situation is changing once more, and the question is, “what does this mean for us?”

With most of our members having been vaccinated, the church needs to reflect the changing reality. One of things we have been missing from our weekly schedule is the informal in-person coffee hour after each service. If the primary function of a church is to be the worshipping body of Christ in the world, its secondary function is to be a supportive and loving community, built on the foundation of Christian friendship. Although this accurately describes St Martha’s, in the past year Covid has, to a certain extent, stifled our common life. Now is the time to carefully roll back some of the restrictions that have kept us apart.

Therefore, from this coming Sunday, in-person coffee hour will return, following the 8:00 am and 10:00 am services. There will be tables and chairs in the hall and outside on the deck, for those who wish to come. Please observe some rules for now: masks are to be worn when you standing or moving around. Masks may be removed when you are sitting down. Try to maintain a sensible physical distance at all times. For those of you who have already ventured out into the cafes and restaurants, these rules will be familiar.

We are also looking for volunteers to host coffee hour. If you want to contribute, there will be a sign up sheet at the back of the church, or please speak to one of the ushers.

A second change being introduced is the return of the collection plate. From Sunday the ushers will walk down the side aisles and then up the middle aisle with collection plates - that way, no-one needs to pass the plate across the seats. Please give generously!

This coming Sunday we welcome Rev. Deacon Dottie Vuono, from St Mary’s church, Bridgeville, who will preach at both services.

With Easter blessings,

Father David

Join us as we worship together in person.

Fifth Sunday of Easter

Sunday, May 2, 2021

8:00 am & 10:00 am- Holy Eucharist

If you are unable to worship in person, please join us as we livestream.

To view the livestreamed service please click the Youtube link below.



UPCOMING EVENTS

St. Martha's Virtual Book Club continues on Thursday, **April 29**, 3:00 – 4:00 PM by Zoom. We are studying *White Fragility* by Robin DiAngelo. On Thursday we are discussing the final chapters, 9-12. Even if you have not read those chapters please join the discussion. To learn more about the book club, contact Rick Legeer, at rlegeer@gmail.com or 301-758- 7539.

Sunday Eucharist

On Sunday, **May 2** at 8:00 am and 10:00 am, we welcome Rev. Deacon Dottie Vuono, from St Mary's Church, Bridgeville, who will deacon and preach at both services.

In Person Bible Study

A study of the Book of Joshua, Chapters 23 & 24 on Tuesday, **May 4** at 1 pm. Led by Dianne Burlew. Meet in the Parish Hall. Masks and physical distancing required. If you are interested in attending, please contact Jaclyn Hickman by email at admin@stmarthasbethanybeach.org or by telephone on 302-539-7444.

Art and Faith

Returns on Wednesday, **May 5** at 7 pm. The Russian Icon of the Resurrection of Jesus - the Descent into Hell. A Zoom link will be provided in next Wednesday's email blast.

Baptism

On Sunday, **May 9**, at the 10:00 am Eucharist, there will be the baptism of Caroline Marganian.

Men's Breakfast

The next men's breakfast will be held in the Lighthipe Hall on Wednesday, **May 12** at 9 am. Our guest will be the Right Reverend Kevin Brown, Bishop of Delaware.

Ascension Day

In addition to our regular services of Holy Eucharist at 8:00 am and 10:00 am, on Sunday, **May 16**, there will be a 6:00 am Holy Eucharist on the beach. More details to follow.



Do you have difficulty connecting to the internet? Would you appreciate some advice on how to Zoom? Or perhaps there's a lightbulb that needs replacing, or a picture that needs hanging. Whatever it is, St Martha's Helping Hands may be able to help. Watch this space for further details in forthcoming Wednesday emails.



Outreach

In April, Outreach is collecting personal care items (soap, toothpaste, shampoo, deodorant, etc.) to deliver to the Pyle Center. Items can be dropped off in the baskets by the church entrance. Monetary donations are also welcome. Be sure to put Personal Care in the memo line of your check.

Community Food Pantry, located at Salem United Methodist Church, is looking for volunteers to help with their monthly Friday food preparation and Saturday drive thru distribution. If you can help May 14 or 15, please contact Joyce Dennis (302-732-6565) or Myra Bare (302-732-9402)



Camp Arrowhead is opening at 50% this summer. Some scholarships are still available. To apply, please contact Jaclyn Hickman at admin@stmarthasbethanybeach.org. to receive a copy of the scholarship form. When form is completed, please send to Josie Legeer at Jlegeer@comcast.net or mail to Josie Legeer 36310 Charleston Dr., Selbyville, DE 19975.

Camp Arrowhead



Beginning **May 2** we will have in-person coffee hours after the 8 AM and 10 AM services. We need volunteers to sign up for either the 8AM or 10AM services for **May 2, 9, 16, 23 and 30**. Coffee will be served and please bring small nibbles that are pre-packaged. A mask will be worn when standing and social distancing will apply, but it can be taken off when seated while eating and drinking. A maximum of 6 people can sit at a table. It is recommended that after getting coffee and a snack all go outside to socialize. A sign-up sheet will be outside the entrance to the Church beginning in May.

Prayer List

Bev and Jack Shubert, Marie Hogsten, Robert Hicks, Christine Mains, Carolyn Clarke, Jim Lucas, Jane Robbert, Cathy Jordan, Al Davidson, Diane, Elsa Fuentes, Madeline May, Joanne Boos, Cherisse, Jack, Dianna Irwin, Joan Kemper & family and Barbara Mahoney

For the recently departed: Charlie Kemper

For our serving military: Quinn Barber, HM3 Kevin Murphy, Conner Warlow, Daniel Olnick

Prayer LIST – If you would like to add someone to the Prayer List please contact the office at (302) 539-7444 or email admin@stmarthasbethanybeach.org. The Prayer List is a way to ask for prayer from the whole congregation for a loved one who is dealing with a stressful issue such as chronic illness, job problem, or other personal problem. Only the person's name is listed. Names stay on the list for one month unless and until renewed.

Prayer CIRCLE – These volunteer prayer warriors pray for a person who has asked for urgently needed short-term prayer for a specific purpose like surgery or an upcoming medical test. These requests are confidential. You can email prayercircle@stmarthasbethanybeach.org for Prayer Circle intercessions. You can also contact Jaclyn at admin@stmarthasbethanybeach.org or 539-7444. Voicemail messages are being monitored and you will receive a return call during normal office hours (Monday-Thursday, 9am-1pm).

Pastoral CARE –If you have a pastoral care need, please call Elsa or Carol at (732) 216-6875 or contact the office using the email address or phone number listed above.

Pastoral Care EMERGENCY – Please contact Father David Beresford at (302) 468 9062.

Please give by mail or website donate button

Please continue to support our mission work by submitting your pledge to St. Martha's Episcopal Church, PO Box 1478, Bethany Beach DE 19930 or give via the donate button on the website where there is a box to note your contribution purpose: <https://www.stmarthasbethanybeach.org/make-donation-or-pledge/>.

*Glorious God,
with your whole Church we offer you our thanks and praise
for all you have done for humanity through Jesus Christ.
By giving him to live and die for us
you have disclosed your gracious plan for the whole world,
and shown that your love has no limit.
By raising Jesus from the dead you have promised
that those who trust in him will share his resurrection life.
For the assurance and hope of our faith,
and for the saints you received into eternal joy,
we thank you all holy and gracious God.
Amen.*

Have a wonderful week!

The Rev. David Beresford, 302-468-9062, davidberesford@gmail.com
Senior Warden, Ron Kerchner, 609-424-7281, thekerchners@msn.com
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Secretary, John Short, 302-829-1699, johnnyeshort146@gmail.com
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