CARILLON
ST BARNABAS EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Our Mission: To Share the Love of Christ/ Compartir el Amor de Cristo

Borrego Springs, California December 2021 Volume 24 Issue 12

Advent and Christmas

We are once again at the beginning of the church year with the start of the season of Advent. It means "coming" for Advent is the preparation for the feast of God's becoming human, God's becoming one of us, God's "moving into the neighborhood." This year, we are able to gather in church, to be with family and friends for Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's celebrations. Thus, it is a time of gratefulness, giving thanks for having survived the pandemic, and coming through healthy and alive. For almost 800,000 people and their families and friends, it was not so. Covid took their lives. And still, despite grief and concern we still sing, "O come, O come, Emmanuel." Emmanuel means "God-with-us," the hope of the people of Israel for centuries as they waited for the Messiah. We have the Messiah with us, all the time. Every Sunday the Messiah or Anointed one Christ, breaks the bread and extends the cup to be in communion with us, this after speaking to us in his own words in the gospels and through the prophets and apostles who wrote the letters we hear.

This year we wait for Jesus to come, on December 25 when we will greet the Lord with the carols we love. But just as Jesus does not restrict his presence to Sundays, so too, Christmas is every day, just as Easter is. Every day we awaken here in the valley or wherever we are, Christ is there with us. The Lord really has moved onto our block, into our homes. But the gift of Christ's coming does not stop there. God-with-us means God speaks through you and me. God reaches out in us, through us, to offer food to the hungry, to teach English, offer better education in the Borrego schools. Jesus visits its friends and neighbors when we email, text, call or better yet, stop the emojis and go hug…those we know and love.

Continued on next page

Advent and Christmas *(Continued)*

There is a funny trick about time that takes place when we celebrate as Jesus' followers. We are reminded of things that happened almost 3000 years ago. But in remembering them—the manger in Bethlehem, the cross on Calvary, the empty tomb, the Spirit's descent—these events come alive again for us. And God's work continues in us after the tree and lights come down, after the last leftovers are done, gifts exchanged, another Christmas put into our memories.

This year we also said goodbye to Laura and Lyle, who served God with us for twelve years here at St. Barnabas. We will always hold them in our hearts with love, they are gifts that will not be exchanged, returned or put away. Their service, not only to our parish but to the wider Borrego community should be a model for us in the new year to come.

Come, O come Emmanuel! Christ is born, let us glorify him.

Michael Plekon

Farewell, Laura and Lyle

Over 30 well-wishers from St. Barnabas and elsewhere gathered at the beautiful home of Sherry Harapat and Dick Helvig on November 16 to bid farewell to our beloved Laura+ and Lyle prior to their move to Colorado. As usual, Sherry and Dick outdid themselves as hostess and host. God blessed us with mild weather, so we were able to enjoy our cocktails outside by the pool. As we gradually moved indoors to enjoy the delicious potluck buffet, Sherry's singing group, Vocalmotion Singers (Jennie Edwards, Beth Hart, Elaine Hazelrigg, Lynnette Salton, Julie Kehler and Sherry Harapat), entertained us with a beautiful selection of Christmas songs. After that, many of the guests read their memories of Laura and Lyle, which they had emailed to Sherry previously. Sherry read several from "zoomers" and others who were unable to attend. They were moving, some funny, all bringing best wishes and fond thoughts.

It is obvious Laura and Lyle will be missed. We wish you success and happiness in your new adventure.

Wendy Quinn

Prayer Requests

Please remember those who have asked for our prayers

We name before God those for whom we offer our prayers. We pray especially for . . . Our President, Our Nation, Our Men and Women in uniform, for all victims of violence, for Laura+ and Lyle Brecht, Jan Jones, Tom and Angela Cassidy, Renee Davis, Karen and Don Bobren, Pam McEvoy, Mark Young, Jamie, Barb Green, Dave Shumway, Larry, Sue, Lindsey and Ward Staff, John and Beth, Don, Virginia Perrine, Amy, Bill and Taisia, Hannah and Emma, Victor, Julianna, Tho, Lauren, Nadia Ritchey, Carol Main, Paul, Cate and Coles, our Guatemalan students: Carlos Jose Yucute Coc, Ruth Olivares, Jason Garcia, Victor Herrera, Brandon Garcia, Maria Zamora and Angelica Abixel. We pray for all frontline workers and those who have died from COVID19 and for all who love them... for all migrants and asylum seekers, and those with decision making power over their lives, and for the people of Afghanistan. We pray for the health of planet Earth.

And for those we now name . . .

The Episcopal Diocese of San Diego Cycle of Prayer

The week of December 5, 2021 – Second Sunday of Advent, Clergy and people of: Church of the Good Shepherd, Bonita

The week of December 12, 2021 – Third Sunday of Advent, Clergy and people of: St. Barnabas, Borrego Springs

The week of December 19, 2021 – Fourth Sunday of Advent, Clergy and people of: Holy Cross, Oceanside For the growth of evangelism in the diocese

The week of December 26, 2021 – First Sunday after Christmas, Clergy and people of: St. Michael's by-the-Sea, Carlsbad For the Diocese of Western Mexico and our companion relationship

Reminder

Bishop Susan will making her official visit to St. Barnabas on December 12

The Impact of the Transition

Well, here we are – without a Rector. If you are wondering what's going to happen now, be happy to know that we (George and Michael, Vestry, Senior Warden, and Transition Committee) think we have things pretty much under control. There will always be a Sunday Eucharist – sometime led by George or Michael and sometimes by a guest priest. If you have a pastoral issue, Michael and George are happy to provide assistance. As we settle in, we plan to have study groups and the Transition team is planning on having groups of parishioners come together to get a sense of what people are looking for in a new Rector.

We plan to do some work on the Rectory, preparing it for whomever we end up calling as our new Rector and as a possible place for guest clergy to stay in the meantime.

As Senior Warden, I am responsible for the secular duties of the Rector (non-priestly activities) including presiding at meetings of the parish and the Vestry. If you have an issue or an idea, please feel free to contact me or any vestryperson.

Our hope is that, other than the glaring fact that Laura+ is no longer here, everything will run fairly normally.

For your convenience, I'm providing contact information. Three vestrypersons will be going off the Vestry after their replacements are elected at the Annual Meeting in January. They are Wendy Quinn, Diane Johnson and Wade Beane but they are available through mid-January.

Margaret Liggett

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Michael Plekon	845-380-6343	mjplekon@aol.com
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Wendy Quinn, Jr. Warden	760-767-5925	weirdweez@gmail.com
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Jan Jones, Vestry	760-518-1231	janjonesfnp@gmail.com
Patrick Grannan, Vestry	760-315-6616	grannanpatrick@gmail.com
Trudy Richard, Vestry	760-310-0806	trudyrichard032@gmail.com
Wade Beane	760-607-9419	wadebeane@hotmail.com

Transition Committee Report

As we enter into this time of transition from Rev Laura+ to calling a new priest there is naturally a feeling of anxiety of the unknown. This is entirely natural but in the words of Franklin Delano Roosevelt from his inaugural address in 1933 when our nation was facing a period of transition and uncertainty – "we have nothing to fear but fear itself."

St Barnabas is not being set adrift like a rudderless ship. We have strong leadership in our Senior Warden, Margaret and the entire vestry. Along with guidance from the Diocese we are confident we will emerge from this transition process stronger than ever with renewed faith and purpose. Indeed this period of transition will empower us - as a congregation – to lead from the bottom up. Our congregation is the church. The Church is our congregation.

We have many members of our church reaching out into the community and leading ministries which provide valuable outreach to the community. Without using the term – we have been engaging in Episcopal Community Ministries which are specially identified as a goal in Resolution 21-01 from the recent Diocesan Convention. We are a healthy and vital parish and it is because of the leadership that is shown by our congregation.

That said it is natural to be a bit uneasy in this time of transition. Our Diocese – in its slogan – calls on us to face times of uncertainty with "Courageous Love". Bishop Susan – in her address to Diocesan convention – explained that Courageous Love is not the absence of concern but proceeding forward in the face of concern or unease. We at St Barnabas have done so before. We will do so now.

In transition periods it is helpful to have an idea of what is to come. While there is no precise formula, the Diocese has identified certain phases that a calling process will follow.

These phases are:

1. Celebration of Laura+'s ministry
2. Process of Discernment regarding ourselves and also regarding characteristics desired in a new priest
3. Formation of a Calling Committee
4. Prepare and finalize Office of Transmission Ministry (OTM) Profile that is posted in a data base that priests looking for a new position can access (essentially a "Priest wanted" ad)
5. Receive and review applications
6. Interview selected applicants
7. List of finalists provided to Vestry
8. Vestry vote to extend offer and coordination with Diocese
9. Celebrate agreement with new priest

We have just completed the first step and will be moving into the discernment process very soon. The Senior Warden and Transition Committee Representatives will be meeting with

(Continued on page 6)

Transition Committee Report *(Continued)*

Canon to the Ordinary Gwynn Lynch on December 19 to receive more guidance and detailed assistance on the process. We expect the discernment process and formation of a Calling Committee to go forward in earnest in January. We will keep you updated but due to the nature of the process the updates will be somewhat general due to the need to keep candidate information confidential.

In the meantime – during the actual transition – we are doubly blessed by the presence of two very capable retired Priests who worship with us regularly. George Keith and Michael Plekon have graciously volunteered to be our primary preachers and pastoral care resources during the transition period,. The current plan is for them to alternate Sunday Services and also to use this time as an opportunity to invite special guest priests to celebrate services from time to time which will give us a unique opportunity to maintain stability during a time of transition while at the same time providing an opportunity to hear differing perspectives from honored guest preachers.

To paraphrase Winston Churchhill "If the Church survives another thousand years, future parishioners will say 'this was our finest hour'".

Pratrick Grannan

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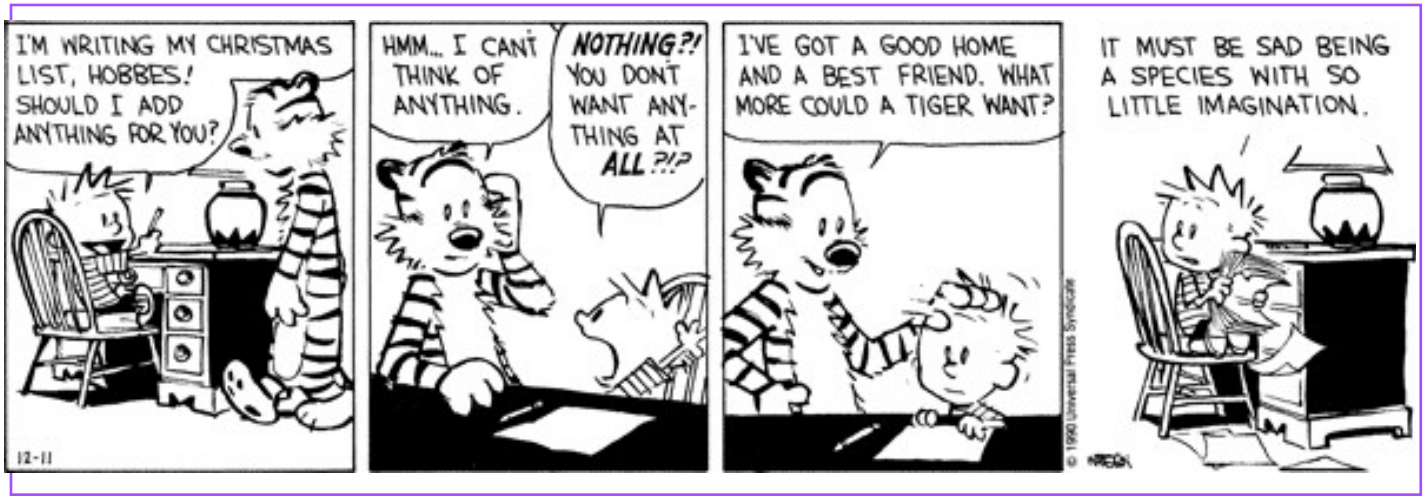
INTERNET RESESORCES

Morning Prayer https://www.missionstclare.com/english/
Centering Prayer - two different resources
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3IKpFHfNdnE Keating
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1aQmQu4lufo Borgeault
Centering Prayer Apps found at Google Play and Apple App Store
Meditation on Scripture https://www.thereligionteacher.com/lectio-divina-steps/
Google "daily Bible verses" to choose from multiple resources.
A wonderful before bed exercise, "Reimagining the Examen", can be found as Android and iPhone apps at Google Play and Apple App Store.



Vestry Meeting Summary

Finances:	Cary Page is the new treasurer. The proposed budget is not finalized and still needs work by the finance committee. Voted to approve Laura's salary through the end of the year.
Vestry:	Leaving are Wade, Diane and Wendy, Nominations are for LLouise, Cathy Gay and Trent Kleinkopf.
Community Outreach:	Plan to resume BYOB concerts this season for February and March.
Solar:	Committee plans on getting estimates from various venders instead of waiting for the Diocese plan.
Stewardship:	Pledge letters have been sent out.
Transition:	Please see Transition Committee Report on page 5.
Communications:	Facebook and Web page are getting a fair amount of following. A "Donate" button has been added to the Web page. Donations can be made via PayPal.

St. Barnabas Carillon

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Production:
Trudy Richard
trudyrichard032@gmail.com

Newsletter Committee:
Trudy Richard, Wendy Quinn, Margaret Liggett, Shirley Vialpando, and Lyle Brecht

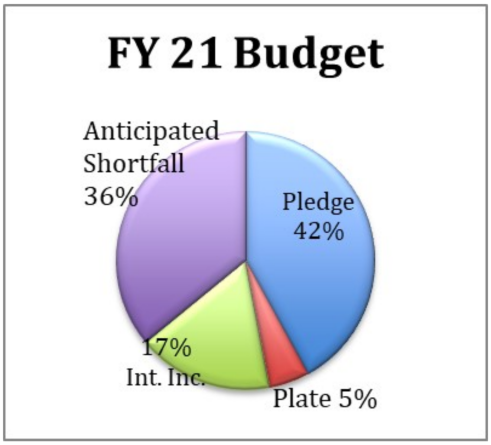
St. Barnabas Vestry

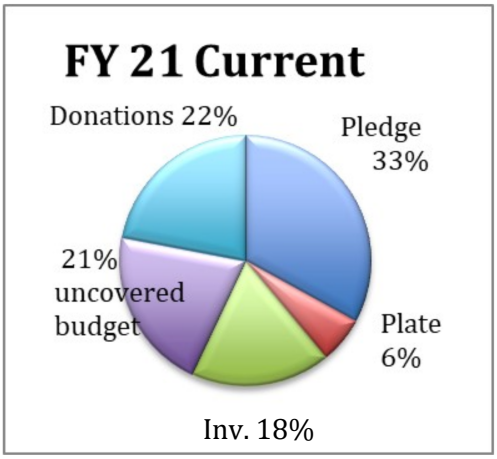
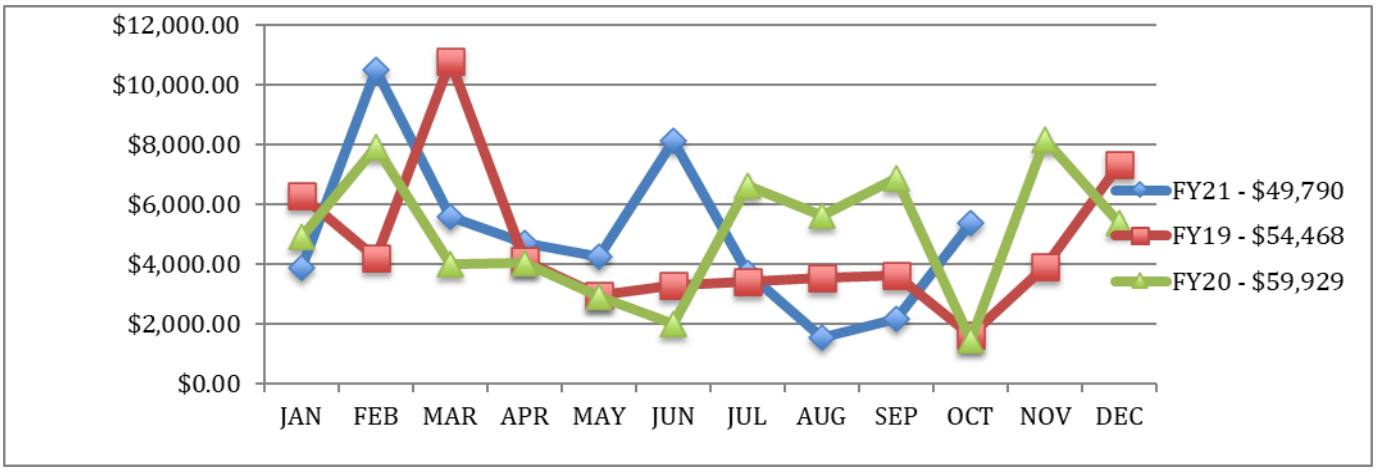
Laura Brecht, Pastor	(760) 767-3620
Margaret Liggett, Senior Warden	(858) 752-7264
Wendy Quinn, Junior Warden	(760) 767-5925
Diane Johnson	(203) 644-5383
Jan Jones	(760) 518-1231
Trudy Richard	(760) 310-0806
Cary Page	{267) 325-8513
Patrick Grannan	(760) 315-6616
Wade Beane	(760) 607-9419

FY 2021 October Financial Update

Parishioners have asked to be kept better informed as to the finances of the church. In an attempt to do that the Finance Committee will be including each month in the Carillon the latest numbers that will give you an idea of how the church finances are doing over the course of the year. Year-end budget will be balanced with funds from investment income and capital as needed .

Budget for FY 2021	
Pledges - actual	$40,000.00
Expected Open Plate	$ 5,000.00
Expected Inv. Interest	$16,000.00
Total Expected Income	$61,000.00
Total Budget Expenditures	$95,846.00
Anticipated Shortfall for FY21	-$34,846.00
Actual for October	
Total Income	$ 5,361.26
Total Expenditures	$13,227.75
Net Income	$ 7,866.49
Actuals through October	
Pledges Received	$ 31,740.00
Open Plate Received	$ 6,144.01
Donations	$ 19,658.00
Stock Donations	$ 1,175.00
BYOB	$
Parking Lot Sale	$
ECF Div.& Int.	$ 4.45
CVB Bank Interest	$ 32.30
WF Invest. Interest Income	$ 17,000.00
Current Total Income	$ 75,753.76
Actual for FY21	
Total Income	$ 75,753.76
Total Expenditures	$ 80,026.36
Current Position	$ 4,272.60





St. Barnabas Monthly Pledge & Plate Income
FY 21 vs. FY20 vs. FY19