



# Pentecost

## Sunday, October 3, 2021

**Celebrant:** 10:00 am The Rev. Regis Smolko

Participating and representing St. Brendan's in prayer and worship and receiving Holy Eucharist for all members and friends.

## Weekly at St. Brendan's

- Sunday** 8:00 am Worship, in person  
10:00 am Worship, in person  
10:00 am Worship, via live streaming [https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCkCY2BEJXlqMoVc\\_nXXG7ew](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCkCY2BEJXlqMoVc_nXXG7ew)
- Monday** 7:45 am Daily Morning Prayer, via zoom, Monday thru Saturday  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/4796201105?pwd=bXM5OHJ2UEh4TXhQT1RkZnVrQWNVdz09>  
Meeting ID: 479 620 1105 Passcode: 092720  
11:00 am Be a Modern Episcopalian, via zoom <https://zoom.us/j/4575423762>  
1:00 pm Bible-Lite Group <https://zoom.us/j/4575423762>
- Tuesday** 7:00 am AA meeting, via zoom Dial in: 312-626-6799 Meeting Id:345 892 252  
8:00 am Staff meeting, via zoom <https://zoom.us/j/4575423762>  
11:00 am Bible Study, via zoom <https://zoom.us/j/4575423762>  
4:30 pm Book Club discussion, via zoom <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81484853481>
- Wednesday** 7:00 pm Evening Service

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## The Priest's Corner

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### Given to and Giving Away

"We are conduits of God's love!" These words have been burned into my consciousness because many times in my life I've been told them, but most often I've experienced them through others, and from time to time got to see my role in the "flow" clearly and with evidence as well.

I was reminded of this when talking to and listening to a new aspirant to our church. He was expressing himself in those very terms. He said his role is to be a part of the "flow of God's love and presence." I was moved spiritually by listening to his witness.

Two realities happening within St. Brendan's almost simultaneously right now seem to point out that even as a church we are simply the place where God's love finds us.

Our lightning-struck tree's removal has almost magically been paid for in full by the generous working of caring people—see Tim's Senior Warden's Corner this week.)

Then, just yesterday and almost magically, a need came to us from an Afghan mother of three boys who is hiding within the city of Kabul. She and the boys are still in grave danger as she is a known spokesperson for women's rights in that country. She and two of her sons are still safe and connected to an American from Chicago via a so-far-safe social media connection. Her eldest son has gone missing; signs point to him being within the grasp of the Taliban. The Chicago connection found St. Brendan's (a story for another time) and on Friday we will likely have a chance to actually talk to this woman and determine how we can help her get to safety. (As this call to be a conduit of God's love unfolds, opportunities to join the "flow" will likely abound. I'll carefully keep you up-to-date if this "giving away" gains traction.)

Given to and Giving away seems so real and so wonderful a way of life. It prevents getting stuck and allows for fluidity. It's as if Scripture challenges us to find a way of living "loosely garmented." It heightens expectations for more of the holy, because we're learning that in giving away we are filled.

**Happy St. Francis Day,  
Regis+**

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### A (BFF) Building Family & Friends donation

was given this week in celebration of the life of Chris Pett-Ridge  
born 9-9-44, died 7-8-2016, from Jean.

Thank you for making a difference at St. Brendan's by becoming a BFF donor. Contact Katie if you are interested in making a donation [stbrendanskatie@gmail.com](mailto:stbrendanskatie@gmail.com).





**St. Brendan's Blessing of the Animals is THIS SUNDAY October 3<sup>rd</sup>!**

Bring your animals, large or small to St. Brendan's Annual Blessing of the Animals event. October is the month of the Feast of St. Francis where we celebrate our beloved pets and honor them with a special blessing service.

And yes, for first timers to our blessing event, you are permitted to bring your animals inside the sanctuary with you, where your pets can choose to 'people watch', 'meditate' or 'sing along' to St. Brendan's music!

**First Blessing Service: 10 am Worship Service**

The first Animal Blessing service will be held for parishioners' pets during our regular 10 am worship service. As requested in the past, please have your pets either on a leash or in a carrier for their safety. The Prayers for the Animals (both present and deceased) will be towards the middle of the 10 AM worship service.

**Second Blessing Service: 11:30 am Outdoor Parking Lot**

The second Animal Blessing service will be a short 15–20-minute service beginning at 11:30 AM. This is the service that we generally advertise to the public and the date you will see advertised on our Blessing of the Animals Banner. This will be held outdoors in St. Brendan's parking lot. Should it rain, we will move the blessing service into the Narthex.

Just as an update, the animal practitioners who participated with our Blessing Event in past years, regrettably declined participating on site this year, due to Covid concerns. We hope to bring them back next year!!

Melanie Popovich, Blessings Coordinator, [mkpopovich@comcast.net](mailto:mkpopovich@comcast.net) or 724 816-4564.



Vestry Meeting. **The Vestry held a Special Meeting** on the evening of Tuesday, September 29. We discussed how to go about naming a member of the parish to carry the banner at the upcoming consecration of Bishop-elect Solak. We approved a bid to replace one of the furnaces that heats the lower level of our building. And we held a discussion of clergy compensation that will enable us now to complete the form that we must submit to the Diocese in order to initiate our search for a new priest-in-charge.



We celebrate the **October wedding anniversaries** of:

- |                                |                               |                                 |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 3 Emily & Brad Zupancic        | 4 Ruth & Steve Horton         | 17 Mary & Karl Haider           |
| 17 Kelli & Bobby Cerra         | 17 Brigid & James Christenson | 22 Saundy & Tom Waseleski       |
| 24 Shellie Hipsky & Ken Judson | 25 Joan & Paul Klinefelter    | 31 Michael Newton & Peter Sweet |



We celebrate the **October birthdays** of:

- |                      |                          |                    |                     |
|----------------------|--------------------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| 1 Kate Heston        | 1 Ken Parsons            | 2 Annemarie Malbon | 3 Michael Long      |
| 6 Nicholas Fleissner | 7 LuAnn Aldridge         | 15 John Riley      | 17 Mary Haider      |
| 18 Conor Wick        | 20 Michael Newton        | 21 Judy Flick      | 23 Anthony Crawford |
| 23 Gail Gil          | 23 Archer William Malbon | 24 Caitlyn Schantz | 29 Karen Dennis     |
|                      |                          |                    | 31 Darrell Johnson  |

**Bible Lite. Beginning Tuesday Evening, October 12** – Bible Lite with Pastor Julie returns. At this time, we are going to read the prophecies in Isaiah and the fulfilment of the prophecies in Luke. That's right – we are getting ready for Advent and Christmas by reading in October, November and into December. We can do it! Let me know if you are interested by emailing [ilsphone1@gmail.com](mailto:ilsphone1@gmail.com).

**Candidates for Diocesan Positions.** At this point, we know of four people from St. Brendan's who are running in upcoming elections for offices at the Diocesan level. Anelisa Tarrant is running for the Board of Trustees. Donna Aiello is running for the Growth Fund Grant Committee. And two Brendanites are running for positions on the Cathedral Chapter: Darrell Johnson as a member of the clergy and Tony Turo as a lay person. We thank them for their interest and wish them Godspeed in the elections at the Diocesan Convention later this month.

**CRIS Advocacy (Christian Response In Emergency Situations), donates** 10% of our pledged income. This week we are supporting the work of two organizations. The first is Brother Andre's Café, which is located in Red Church on Washington Plaza. This café employs adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities and is opening this weekend. The other is Miryam's kitchen. Where we send monthly donation to cover the cost of one dinner each month during the pandemic.

**Would you like to be a banner bearer?!** As we hope you already know, Reverend Dr. Ketlen Solak will be consecrated as our new bishop on Saturday morning, November 13 at Calvary Episcopal Church. Each parish in the Diocese has been asked to name one of its members to carry a banner in the procession that precedes the service. The Vestry considered who to nominate and decided to invite any member of St. Brendan's who is interested to submit her/his name. We will then draw a name at random from the pool of names submitted. **To be considered as our banner bearer, please send your name to Katie by 5:00 p.m. on Friday, October 8. A name will be drawn early the following week and announced in the Little Log for Thursday, October 14.**



**It's time to make the cookies!** Every year Brendanites, their families and sometimes their friends make cookies for our famous Cookie Walk which is held the Saturday before Thanksgiving. This year that date is November 20, 2021. We will be doing both a drive through and inside pick your own cookies (details to follow). We are also adding 5 varieties of soup to our menu sold by the quart.

We have planned an exciting new raffle idea since we won't be adding the holiday vendors this year. We are going to raffle off a freezer full of meat! The freezer will be filled with \$500 worth of meat and we're including a \$100 gift card that the winner can use to purchase fixings for a thanksgiving dinner.

For now, we need bakers and volunteers. Last year we had about 1100 dozen cookies. Small gourmet cookies are always the most popular. Cookies can be made ahead of time, brought to the church and put in the "cookie freezer" in the kitchen. Please mark the container with your name, the name of the cookie, and whether or not there are nuts in the recipe.

The sign-up sheets is in the Narthex or send me an email at [Kdennis54@verizon.net](mailto:Kdennis54@verizon.net) or call me at 412-580-2755.  
Thanks, Karen Dennis



**CALLING ALL young people** – those between 12 and 18 or in grades 7 to 12 – do you have questions about the Bible (like Can I trust the Bible?) or God (why does God allow suffering or does God discriminate against women or gay people?). Then join us at youth group. Cameron Grosh and Pastor Julie will be leading discussions twice a month on the first and third Mondays of each month beginning on October 4. Let us know if you are coming so we can order enough pizza and books by emailing Pastor Julie at [jsphone1@gmail.com](mailto:jsphone1@gmail.com).



The North Hills Food is currently running low on supplies. They particularly would like boxed potatoes, pasta, and canned chicken. Please bring non-perishable food items/donations when you come on Sunday or any time the church is open, and you can leave them in the shopping cart in the narthex. Go to their website at <http://northhillsfoodbank.org/donations/> for a full list of what they need right now. Anything you can give will help. Thank you!



**Help End Family Homelessness:** St. Brendan's is partnering with Bridge of Hope to come alongside a local family in need. Volunteers will be trained and equipped to be a good neighbor to a local family facing homelessness.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=C1Xqn9mr1al&authuser=0>

Please consider if Jesus is calling you to be a good neighbor. For more information call Marilyn Mulvihill at 412-427-2715.

[Preview YouTube video From Mentoring to Neighboring](#)

## Senior Warden's Corner

"For everything," as the writer of Ecclesiastes famously wrote, "there is a season, and a time for every purpose under heaven." For trees and plants in particular, there is "a time to be born, and a time to die"—something that we notice each year around this time as the leaves turn and the first frosts arrive.

As most readers will know, a majestic white oak has dominated the south end of our lot on McAleer Road since long before St. Brendan's was ever thought of. Over the past four decades, Brendanites who attended summertime 8:00 services in the outdoor chapel welcomed the shade that it provided. And all of us appreciated the backdrop it provided for our liturgies from beyond the windows in the Sanctuary.

The tree died not as the result of neglect or pollution or man-made "development," thank God. It died because its very height made it a target for an unlucky lightning-strike three years ago. Arborists initially advised the Vestry that it might recover, but those hopes have proven illusory and the tree is now a real danger to our building—so much so, in fact, that our insurance company was willing to write us a \$1,000 check to help pay for its removal!

So ... a contractor will fell the tree before the winter weather arrives. Some parishioners suggested in recent months that we might arrange to have some of the wood fashioned into a bench or another memento of some kind, but we have not had the time to follow through on those suggestions and we cannot now run the risk of delaying any longer.

Footnote: for those who are concerned about cost, it may be reassuring to know that the Diocese has graciously approved a Growth Fund Grant to supplement the insurance check I mentioned above, which means that the parish will not have to pay anything from our budget.

**Senior Warden, Tim Austin**



**Hospitallity Hour Volunteers are still needed!** We are looking for individuals, couples or families who plan to be at church for the 10:00 Sunday Eucharist in the coming weeks who would be willing to host. Numbers are modest at the moment. We urge you to keep the refreshments simple (coffee or lemonade, doughnuts or cookies). To volunteer, contact Katie. [stbrendanskatie@gmail.com](mailto:stbrendanskatie@gmail.com).



**Book Club Meeting:** The next meeting of the Book Club will be held at the church on **Thursday, October 7, 2021**, at 7 pm to discuss "The Splendid and the Vile" by Erik Larson. A New York Times #1 bestseller, it delivers an intimate chronicle of Winston Churchill and London during the Blitz—an inspiring portrait of courage and leadership in a time of unprecedented crisis.

Mark your calendars! You won't want to miss this one!

**Support Bethlehem Haven.** The Social Justice committee is hosting a service project for [Bethlehem Haven](#) through October 10th. Bethlehem Haven's mission is to provide a continuum of care for homeless individuals that leads toward self-sufficiency.

#### Ways to Help

- Shop Bethlehem Haven's [Amazon wish list](#). These items ship directly to Bethlehem Haven.
- Buy items from the attached *Bethlehem Haven Wish List* and drop them off at church on Sundays. Look for the bin labeled, Bethlehem Haven.

If sending items directly to Bethlehem Haven, please report your donations to Sara Byrne ([sas.byrne@gmail.com](mailto:sas.byrne@gmail.com)) so that we can total our impact! **Questions?** Contact Sara Byrne, [sas.byrne@gmail.com](mailto:sas.byrne@gmail.com)

#### **"The Difficult Words of Jesus" by Amy-Jill Levine - 7 Week 1 Hour Zoom Study**

In *The Difficult Words of Jesus*, Amy-Jill Levine shows how these difficult teachings would have sounded to the people who first heard them, how they have been understood over time, and how we might interpret them in the context of the Gospel of love and reconciliation. Join us for a 7 week, 1 hour, Zoom study of this book facilitated by Ruth Getz at **1:30 pm on Tuesdays** beginning on Tuesday, October 19. Please send an email to Katie [StBrendansKatie@gmail.com](mailto:StBrendansKatie@gmail.com) indicating if you would like to participate. Books can be purchased from Amazon. A minimum of 4 participants is required.

Background: Jesus proved his disciples teachings for how to follow Torah as God's word; he told them parables to help them discern questions of ethics and of human nature; he offered them beatitudes for comfort and encouragement. But sometimes Jesus spoke words that followers then and now have found difficult. He instructs disciples to hate members of their own families (Luke 14:26), to act as if they were slaves (Matthew 20:27), and to sell their belongings and give to the poor (Luke 18:22). He restricts his mission (Matthew 10:6); he speaks damnations (Matthew 8:12); he calls Jews the devil's children (John 8:44). Amy-Jill Levine is a University Professor of New Testament and Jewish Studies at Vanderbilt Divinity School and College of Arts and Sciences. An internationally renowned scholar and teacher she is the author of numerous books. She is also the coeditor of *Jewish Annotated New Testament*.



**Haitian Project:** At St. Brendan's we have been supporting one of our members, Isaac, who is committed to helping people in his homeland of Haiti. We have been collecting clothes and other used items for him to send to Haiti. Last year, Isaac completely filled a used truck which he had purchased with many donated items. It was driven to Miami and then sent on a boat to Haiti. A few of the items were damaged by a leak in one corner of the truck, and Isaac has taken precautions to prevent leaks from happening again. Most of the items survived the trip and are now being used and appreciated by the Haitians. You can see pictures of children using items that were shipped on top of the donation box in front of the church.

Now Isaac has bought two used school buses. One is completely full for shipment to Haiti. We need donations of summer clothes and shoes for adults and children. The adult sizes are medium to small but all sizes of men's shirts can be used. Also needed are bikes, cookware, tools, gardening tools, sewing machines, crutches, wheelchairs, walkers, cribs, towels, bedding, sleeping bags and comforters. If you would like to purchase something, toothbrushes, toothpaste, and bars of soap are appreciated. We will be collecting for 6 weeks or so. If you cannot drop off items at the church to put into the donation box, call Joyce Donadee 412 849 9816 to make other arrangements.

## Upcoming Events from our Neighbors

Please join **Pennsylvania Interfaith Impact Network (PIIN)** joins the Gamaliel Network for Transformational Justice in Action for a virtual Town Hall on **October 1 at 3pm**.

This Town Hall will present elected officials and interested community members with information about our work to restore voting rights to people with conviction histories. **You can register for the webinar [here](#).**

Please join **Our Right to Clean Air – Tuesday October 12, 2021 Noon** via zoom. Fourth Virtual Grassroots Town Hall.

[Sign Up on Eventbrite!](#)



## Requested Prayers

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We ask your prayers for our beloved members of St. Brendan's, especially; Bill Spoonhoward, Mark Kinley and the Kinley Family, Larry Toler, Rosie and Rodge Wood, Matthew, Mark Shoemaker, Larry Tarrant and Mark Kinley.

For our parents, especially; Sandy Martin, Ray Militzer, Naomi Getty and Lenora.

For our family members, especially; Lizzie, Greg Walton, Mike Dixon, Jennifer Archer, John Barie, Chris Sensenich, Linda Ahlbrand, Marie Hazelton, Tom Groves, Nathan Schlumpf, Bob Keihl, David Pingree and Robert Donato.

And for our friends, especially; Tony Mascaro, Shari Mancini, Becky Horton, Dave Frazier, Jane Young, Sherri Hilbert, Joan Gonzales, Heather and Dan Houle.

We pray for all who have died, especially Frances Kinley and Greg Walton.

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# October 2021 Ministry Calander

Date	Lectors	Altar Guild	Sunday School	Nursery	Usher	Vestry	Hospitality
October 3 Sunday 8 & 10:00 am	8 Tammy Spoonhoward 1 <sup>st</sup> John Appledorn 2 <sup>nd</sup> John Appledorn P Michael Donadee <i>*Readers have the option to pre-record or read live in person.</i>	8 Ellen Groves 10 Phoebe Juel	~	~	Tim Austin TBD	Tim Austin	Need Volunteer
October 6 Wednesday 7:00 pm	TBD	Darrell Johnson	~	~	~	~	~
October 10 Sunday 8 & 10:00 am	8 Ellen Groves 1 <sup>st</sup> AJ McKenna 2 <sup>nd</sup> TBD P Donna Aiello <i>*Readers have the option to pre-record or read live in person.</i>	8 Sylvia Affleck 10 Shari Tarrant	~	~	Eric Helmsen Kate Heston	Larry Toler	Need Volunteer
October 13 Wednesday 7:00 pm	TBD	Darrell Johnson	~	~	~	~	~
October 17 Sunday 8 & 10:00 am	8 George Snyder 1 <sup>st</sup> Michael Donadee 2 <sup>nd</sup> Annemarie Malbon P Donna Aiello <i>*Readers have the option to pre-record or read live in person.</i>	8 Joan Klinefelter 10 Janice Moore	~	~	Donna Aiello John Appledorn	Janice Moore	Need Volunteer
October 20 Wednesday 7:00 pm	TBD	Darrell Johnson	~	~	~	~	~
October 24 Sunday 8 & 10:00 am	8 Joan Beatrous 1 <sup>st</sup> Alan Schneider 2 <sup>nd</sup> Linda Limberis P Mary Bertucci <i>*Readers have the option to pre-record or read live in person.</i>	8 Tammy Spoonhoward 10 Kathy Miller	~	~	Dale Bertucci Anthony Bertucci	Mary Bertucci	Need Volunteer
October 27 Wednesday 7:00 pm	TBD	Darrell Johnson	~	~	~	~	~
October 31 Sunday 8 & 10:00 am Children's Sunday, 5th	8 Nancy Snyder 1 <sup>st</sup> (Children) 2 <sup>nd</sup> (Children) P (Children)	8 Dottie Antonucci 10 Anelisa Tarrant	~	~	Allyson Baierl Michael Donadee	Cameron Grosh	Need Volunteer

