

Announcements

Calling All Pledges!

The Stewardship Committee plans to make a report to the parish on Sunday, November 21, with the goal of having most, if not all, pledges of financial support for 2022 in hand.

As of 11/10, we are 39 households short of that goal. Thank you to all who have responded, and responded so generously!

If you've not made your pledge, please go [HERE](#) to do so online. It's quick, easy, and saves our Treasurer some time. You may have already received a call from one of our "team," but please call any of our Stewardship Committee members if you've any unanswered questions!

Thank you! Paule French, Michele Johns, Bill Macleod, Jamie Michaud

Outreach: We Came, We Decided, We Will Donate!

A huge thank you to all who attended Tuesday evening's Outreach gathering. With our group of 20, there were robust and thoughtful conversations around potential 501(c)3's to receive the remaining Outreach monies and Christmas Fair proceeds. The final choices were both local or within the state as well as underfunded efforts or those in need of immediate, critical funds. Below are the 6 organizations that will each receive significant donations from St. Bart's this year:

Affordable Housing (Habitat for Humanity of Greater Portland) - this organization is one of long-held interest to the parish. They are currently building 3 houses in the Freeport area and need critical funds to finish this project.

Asylum Seekers/Immigration (Hope Acts) - this is a Portland based organization that provides transitional housing, ELL classes and individualized support. They are quite underfunded.

Environmental Issues (Cousins River Fields and Marsh Project) - a collaboration of 3 local not-for-profits to preserve 82 acres that will create resiliency around the impacts of climate change. The project's campaign has a year-end deadline.

Food insecurity/Food Banks (Growing to Give) - this Brunswick farm grows food for the sole purpose of donating it to local people who face food insecurity.

Homelessness (Portland Opportunity Crew) - this is part of the City of Portland and based on a nationally recognized program. It offers panhandlers an opportunity to earn money and to cleanup public spaces and links them with needed services, such as job training and support.

Racial Justice (Racial Equity and Justice of Bangor) - this organization provides national support to communities through consulting, education, advocacy and solution based action steps. They specifically support Black, Brown, Indigenous and Communities of Color.

We hope that our gathering will be a catalyst for future affinity groups to form around these topics and others of community concern and need. Please stay tuned.

For now, though, much gratitude for helping Outreach to complete this unique funding opportunity!

The Re-Imagining Outreach committee

Catherine Richards, Carla Hunt, David Elliott, Dennis Fitzgibbons, Holly Mitchell, Michele Johns, Peter Sillin and Nina Scribner

Afternoon Handwork

We welcome all to join us on zoom on **Monday, November 15 from 3-4:30pm** as we work on our craft projects and have friendly conversation. See ebulletin for link.

The Book Room: Yes, we want your books!

Finally! The announcement you've been waiting for! The Book Room is now accepting donations of books to stock our newly organized shelves. Please remember that certain categories of books do not sell. Among them: self-help, textbooks, outdated travel books, bibles, dictionaries and most reference books. Additional non-sellers: any book that is musty, damaged, has underlined pages or personal notes, or is generally in poor condition.

Leave books upstairs in the book room, not in the office. Feel free to check out the small bookcase in the hallway for a sample of the books upstairs, and then head up to the book room for more. Our usual excellent prices have not changed: \$2 for hard cover, \$1 for paperbacks; and/or donations welcome. Cash boxes have been provided.

For more information, contact Margaret Betts (mmbetts@roadrunner.com - 784-5676) or Linda Draper (ldraper347@gmail.com - 653-1666)

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Friendship House

The current request for donations include the following:

- * Saran wrap and aluminum foil
- * 55 gallon trash bags
- * Disinfectant cleaners
- * Antibacterial hand soaps
- * Personal hygiene items
- * Laundry detergent
- * Dishes/Bowls/Cups
- * **Small End tables, Floor lamps, Bedside lamps** - please contact Pam re: drop off

Donations can be dropped off at St. Bart's in the plastic box labeled "Friendship House" on the front porch.

For drop off of larger items or with questions, please contact [Pam Hobson](mailto:pamhobson46@gmail.com), pamhobson46@gmail.com.

Financial contributions are welcomed and can be mailed to: Friendship House, 390 Lincoln St, South Portland, ME 04106.

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Gathering Notes and COVID Protocols

Dear Friends,

The Regathering Committee and the Vestry continue to monitor the current increased spread of COVID-19 and its Delta variant. If you are concerned or in a high risk group please remember that you have the option of streaming the service from home. If you attend in-person services please continue to follow the safety protocols that we have in place (see current list below). It is important to wear a mask and to maintain social distancing.

Your Vestry & Regathering Committee

COVID Safety Protocols

Communion (bread only)

Clergy will bring the bread to the front of the altar area and stand in the center, the congregation would come forward one at a time (using the ushers to go through the rows and let people know when to go up as usual). The clergy would use hand sanitizer at the beginning of the Great Thanksgiving and after finishing distribution.

Offering

The offertory basket will be on a small table next to the usher as people enter. People can place their offerings in the basket as they enter. One usher would bring forward the offering basket at the offertory point in the service.

Passing of the Peace

We ask that everyone stand in place at your chairs and turn to face your neighboring groups of chairs to offer a greeting/peace sign/bow. (no physical contact - handshakes/hugs).

Chalice Bearer

There will be one VESTED chalice bearer per service for prayers of the people and/or readings and to assist the clergy to prepare the altar before communion.

Masking for Clergy (Vaccinated)

Clergy may be unmasked while they are up on the altar area/platform and unmasked to preach. Clergy to be masked while distributing communion.

St. Elizabeth's Essentials Pantry

Lots of activity this week when 153 neighbors came to St. Elizabeth's. Hats and scarves were handed out along with the regular essentials outside, while bedding and towels were available inside. Volunteers from six different churches assisted Sarah and Anne. To top it off, cars loaded with donations arrived from three partner churches. **Boot Distribution** will be on November 23rd and another **Coat Distribution** will take place on November 30th. Donations still welcome.

Please consider DONATIONS:

👢 Large Winter Boots for adults 👢

Mittens * Gloves * Socks

Bedding * Towels * kitchen pots, dishes *

Shampoo * Conditioner * Deodorant

Toothbrushes * Hand sanitizer * Masks (cotton or disposable

(Leave donations in the large blue bins on the bench outside or call us.)

To order these products from Amazon, visit our [Amazon Wishlist](http://bit.ly/StElizabethWishlist), <http://bit.ly/StElizabethWishlist>.

St. Elizabeth's [Facebook page](https://www.facebook.com/StElizabethsJubileeCenter/), <https://www.facebook.com/StElizabethsJubileeCenter/>

St. Elizabeth's [website](https://stelizabethsmaine.org/donate/), <https://stelizabethsmaine.org/donate/>

Questions, contact [Linda Draper](mailto:ldraper347@gmail.com), ldraper347@gmail.com or [Anne Jacobs](mailto:ajacobs207@gmail.com), ajacobs207@gmail.com.

Christmas Fair News

Greens Committee

The greens committee is looking for eager volunteers. We will gladly teach you whatever you need to learn. I will set up and organize all of the decorations on the Sunday after Thanksgiving. We will work Monday through Friday from around 9:00 to 2:00 or 3:00. Come and stay as long as you can. It's lots of fun. We clean up on Friday to get ready for the fair so our work time is very limited. Let me know if you want to have some fun with us. Contact [Mary Calvin](#), maryecalvin@gmail.com or 713-385-4708.

Silent Auction

Back by Popular Demand! The Silent Auction at St. Bart's Christmas Fair. We are looking for items that will generate lots of competition among bidders. Popular items include: weekend getaways; gift certificates for restaurants and retail stores, garden centers; artwork and collectibles; small furniture; and jewelry. Please contact [Laurie Hyndman](#), or [Deborah Wathen-Finn](#), with questions and with your donations. Thank you. We would appreciate having items dropped off on Friday, Dec. 3 by noon.

Christmas Ornaments Needed

The greens committee is ordering ornaments to use for the Christmas Fair. **Please check your stash of ornaments that might be left over from previous years. We could use your donations.** The shelves are pretty bare at our usual suppliers. It also saves us a surprising amount of money. Thanks. Any questions, contact [Mary Calvin](#), maryecalvin@gmail.com.

A Call to all Chefs for Gourmet Frozen Foods

St. Bart's is fortunate to have many talented chefs in its ranks. While we cannot hold the luncheon this year, we are excited to offer great food at the Gourmet Frozen Food table. Thus, we are seeking all interested chefs to contribute to a diverse menu of frozen soups and entrees that will be sold and distributed the day of the fair (December 4th). Please consider making one or more of your specialties for the table. Please contact [Barbara Barhydt](#) (jbml@gwi.net) as soon as possible, if you are interested in volunteering or if you have any questions. We need to know who is interested in participating by November 15th. We look forward to another successful year in offering delectable meals to go!

Crafts Needed

Calling all crafters!! There's still plenty of time to make a craft before this year's Fair. You can make 6 of any item, or more if you think appropriate. Table decor/linens, scarves, pot holders, mittens, hats, face masks, coasters, soaps, candles, bath salts/bombs, wooden or metal crafts or whatever you would like to contribute. If you need suggestions or have questions, please contact [Harriet Davis](#), harriet.davis@gmail.com. Also, if you have license plates, please let us know. Joe Michaud creates wonderful things from license plates.

Jewelry, Handbags, Scarves Needed!

Do you (or someone you know) have jewelry you no longer wear? The St. Bart's Jewelry elves await your donations to sort, organize, research, price, and/or polish! We accept all jewelry - necklaces, bracelets, rings, earrings, pins, cufflinks... real or costume...and broken items as we can repair. We welcome donations of handbags and scarves in very good condition. Designer items are best sellers. Please drop off at the St. Bart's office with a note on the bag or box for Anne Jacobs. Questions, [Anne Jacobs](#), ajacobs207@gmail.com.