

# ST. BARNABAS EPISCOPAL CHURCH

*954 Lake Avenue, Greenwich, CT 06831*

## **Parish Profile**

*7-12-11*

We worship together in a serene and holy space, quietly sited on the top of our lovely hill. The lovely setting is only matched by the wonderful things happening inside. The music and liturgy bind us to one another and help reveal our collective faith in Christ. The strength of St. Barnabas is in our extraordinary community. We are not a large church but we have a wonderful energy.



It is hard to separate spiritual and emotional well being as they are in so many ways tied together. We work together in mission outreach, learn together in Bible study, and support each other when called upon. Our mission activities have been as disparate as: Katrina relief work, supporting Neighbor to Neighbor (a local clothing and food pantry), Carver Center Camperships (summer camp funds) and raising awareness for issues through parish dinners.



Fellowship activities are fun, all-hands-on-deck occasions. Trinkets to Treasures, our parish tag sale, combines outreach and fellowship, as does the Christmas Sharing Party, a wonderful party for local social services families. The youth group participates actively in these events. Some of us have taken advantage of opportunities for spiritual development

through the Alpha program and occasional retreats. We had the good fortune over the last several years to go on a seaside retreat where we walked, swam, fed each other both spiritually and literally and came home physically and spiritually refreshed.

## **Our Mission**

**To be an active, growing community that provides nurture, support and guidance to enable all its members to deepen their faith and to carry out Christ's work in the world.**

## **Our Vision**

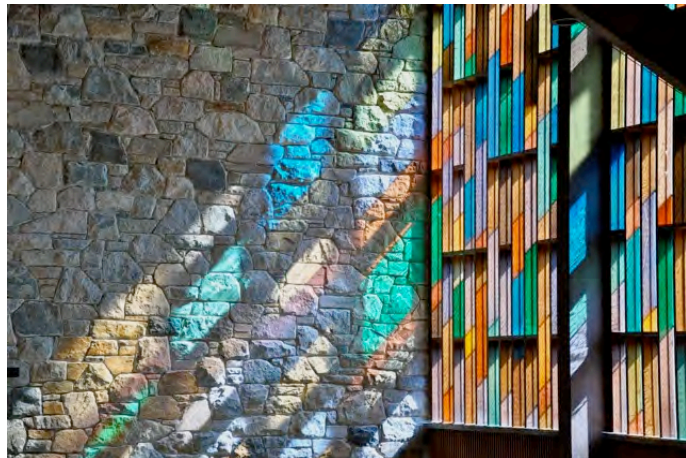
St. Barnabas aspires to be:

- An Episcopal fellowship that invites all people to experience through worship the joy and wonder of God's kingdom.
- A serene and holy space in which one can encounter the living God.
- A lively community marked by the lilt of laughter, the voices of children and a magnetic energy, which beckons others to become involved.
- A caring family whose gentle touch and unhurried attention nurture the building of supportive relationships.
- A body of Christians committed to respond to the serious challenges in the church and in the world.

## **Sharing our Stories of Faith and How the Holy Spirit works through us at St. Barnabas**

### ***A Place to Know God***

As the rising sun shines through the stained glass windows of St. Barnabas Church, the early morning light creates a multi-colored "light curtain" that moves along the curved stone wall toward the cross. For a long time, the scene seemed simply magical to me; not any more.



Now this space has become a place to see and hear God proclaim, "I AM HERE."

You, too, will feel His presence: The curved wall is His arm wrapping around you, and the Holy Spirit pulses from each stone; it's palpable. And when the light curtain surrounds the cross, you, too, will be able to see Christ, His Son, whose life was sacrificed for us.

You can also feel His presence in the Children's Services where our little ones gather to listen and interact with our clergy, who tell stories about Christ. They "get" Jesus deep, deep down, and to experience their natural knowing, first-hand,

is to remember how much we can learn from them, our children.

The Holy Spirit is with us adults, too, as we gather in smaller groups on Wednesday mornings and Thursday evenings, and as we come together for Sunday services where we honor His glory and pray for His forgiveness in a place that was built to know God.

From a member of the Calling Committee

### ***I Believe In Angels***

A dozen or so years ago I found myself in Greenwich Hospital after a back operation gone awry. The doctor had taken a couple of swipes at it, and things seemed to go from bad to worse. When I had checked in to the hospital, I was asked if I would like to be visited by my minister. Though we were long-time members of St. Barnabas.....two of our children were baptized there and both our daughters had been married at St. B.....I was really “not in to it.” Thus not only did I find no value in seeing “my minister” but would probably be embarrassed by his presence given my lack of presence at his church.

Well there I am lying bed, and in walks Father Van Wely. A little afraid of what he might say, I warily greeted him. He kindly inquired about my condition, said a couple of prayers and left before I could either thank him or have to nervously explain my absence at St. Barnabas. I was relieved. When he reappeared the next day and the exchange was just the same, I thought about what a sensitive person this is. On subsequent days I rather looked forward to his visits, and on his departure I had a calming feeling of peace.

Soon thereafter a “fix” was ascertained, and after a final procedure, I was fine and returned home. I couldn’t help but reflect on the thoughtfulness with which Dick had dealt with me.....I was cured and at peace with the world. Feeling that there may be something more to all of this, I decided to give the whole “church thing” a shot.....the rest is history.

Meanwhile, I did not cease wondering why, despite my instructions otherwise, Dick had come to visit. Perhaps, I thought, it is just the innate Greenwich competitive spirit of never taking “no” for an answer. There could be something to this. However, one weekend I was hiking in the woods with my chum Stephen Vehslage, a faithful St. Barnabas member and pal of Dick’s. I told him the story and wondered what could have inspired Dick to ignore my instructions. Stephen then told me that he had suggested to Dick that he visit me. “But he doesn’t want to see me,” Dick observed. “Go anyway,” replied Stephen, “you might catch one.” You know that angels live!

An “earthly” take on this experience might fit the expression that “opportunity occurs when luck meets preparation.” Well, I was the “luck” side of this equation and Stephen and Dick furnished the “preparation.” That this combination can be

life changing is humbling and serves to make one wonder how in the world this “luck” could be transmitted and shared.

From a member of the Calling Committee

### **Sharing our Stories by Decade and Our Core Values**

Many parishioners of St. Barnabas gathered in the parish hall in the afternoon of April 3, 2011, for the Telling Our Story session led by the Rev. Canon Erik Larsen, Canon for Transition Ministry, and diocesan consultant Emily Puskar.

Parishioners were divided into groups according to the decade (1950-2010) that they first arrived at St. Barnabas. Groups discussed what was happening in the world and in the Episcopal Church as well as their experience at St. Barnabas during that particular time. Each of the decades was well represented and each group presented its summary. After the discussion, the following Core Values of St. Barnabas were distilled by the Calling Committee from the plenary session.

#### **The Parish – Who Are We?**

We are a small, close-knit family of parishioners. We value fellowship and have a strong sense of Christian community, where we seek spiritual engagement for individuals and families.



#### **Characteristics of a Priest**

We seek a priest who is approachable, energetic, confident, and caring; an engaging and dynamic leader who would be comfortable interacting with our congregation. Our future leader should be a skilled preacher who can relate spiritual issues into our daily lives. He/She should also be a confident leader who manages to be easily accessible and personable.

#### **Sermons**

We look for sermons that are intelligent and inspiring by relating spiritual values to our daily lives, without being partisan on political or social issues.

#### **Christian Education**

We value a solid Christian education program for children and adults, one that is scripturally based, but also includes teachings on the traditions and doctrines of the Episcopal Church. We put a strong emphasis on a family-friendly environment.

## Music

St. Barnabas Church is noted for its high-quality, sophisticated music program. Music is an integral part of our worship and a new concert series has been established that parishioners and non-parishioners enjoy throughout the year.

## Outreach

We are committed to Mission/Outreach projects, both close to home and overseas, and to the fundraising efforts to support them as needed.

## Parish Life

We are a small but very active parish that offers many opportunities for individuals to participate in ministries of worship, mission and outreach, Christian formation, stewardship, and fellowship.

Members of the altar guild and senior and youth choirs prepare for, enhance, and support our worship. Chalice bearers deliver consecrated wine. Layreaders participate in every service. Acolytes assist. Presenters offer the elements. Ushers provide welcome and logistical support.



The Mission and Outreach Committee coordinates parishioners in major undertakings such as the annual Christmas Sharing Party and the Trinkets to Treasures tag sale (held every three years). It organizes fundraisers and educational programs to support mission at home and abroad:

St. Luke's LifeWorks in Stamford, Connecticut; Neighbor to Neighbor in Greenwich; the Carver Center in Port Chester, New York; Haiti Earthquake recovery; the building of a school in Angola, a joint project with St. Botolph's, London; summer camps in the Dominican Republic; and other activities.



Many parishioners are Church School teachers. Others attend and sometimes lead Bible study

programs and book discussions. Parishioners go on retreats; others take tours such as to the National Cathedral in Washington, D.C., and the Metropolitan

Museum of Art, led by a laywoman who is an art historian or jointly by her and a priest.

Parishioners on the vestry and Finance, Buildings and Grounds, Music, and Cemetery committees oversee the financial and physical assets of the church, which include operating funds, a substantial endowment, a facilities repair and replacement fund, the Richards, Fowkes Opus One organ, an adjacent cemetery, and an offsite historical cemetery.

## **Worship**

We have a broad liturgical style, using the Book of Common Prayer and simplified Anglican chant during the Eucharist. Traditional hymns and anthems, as well as those from the new hymnal are incorporated into the services with a full choir that includes professional choristers. We offer Holy Eucharist Rite I or Rite II services each Sunday at 8:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m. and Morning Prayer is offered six Sundays out of the year. There are occasional mid-week celebrations and additional services are held during the major feasts.



Sacred music in the Anglican tradition is performed weekly by the choir and led by the music and liturgy director, Michael Roush. Michael's accompaniment on the renowned Richards, Fowkes organ combined with the acoustics of our parish enhance the worship experience. A new concert series that began in 2010 continues to enhance the high-quality music program.

There are two weekly Bible study sessions as well as special forums to nurture people's prayer life.

There are 20 active members of our altar guild who prepare the chancel and vest the altar according to the services and liturgical season.

Parishioners are active in weekly services as readers, ushers, chalice bearers and acolytes. The participants are trained, coached and supervised by the clergy and laity with scheduling organized through the parish office.

Our children process into the sanctuary at the beginning of each service ahead of the choir and then are led to their church school classes. They return to the service prior to the commencement of the Eucharist. Our youth choir has 16 active participants led by Elena Williamson, Director, and they participate in the Sunday services once a month. The children are active participants in the annual Christmas and Epiphany pageants.



### **Christian Education**

A weekly Bible study is offered to parishioners and led by Rev. Ann Broomell, interim rector. There are 10-15 people who attend on a regular basis.

The Alpha course has been offered at St. Barnabas over the last 5 years and has grown to become the Thursday evening Adult Education Group who meets on a weekly basis.

There are currently 69 youth enrolled in the Church School from Pre-k to 7<sup>th</sup> grade. Classes are held each Sunday at the beginning of the 10:00 a.m. service and then the children are led into the sanctuary to join their families after the Offertory.



Until recently, the Church School program has been organized and directed by the Associate Rector for Christian Education and Formation. Our new assistant to the rector, Juliusz (Jules) Jodko, will now assume this responsibility.

Teachers are required to attend a training session at the beginning of the Church

School year led by the rector to review the procedure and curriculum. There are 4 -6 teachers for each grade who rotate on a weekly basis. The current curriculum in use is “Faith Weavers,” however, a new curriculum will be introduced at the beginning of the 2011-2012 season upon recommendation from the interim rector.

Enrollment has been low in the 5-7 grades in the last few years (no Confirmation class in 2010); however, there is higher enrollment in the lower grades. Attendance trends are high at the beginning of the season and then start to dwindle as the year progresses, particularly during peak school vacation periods. Participation in sports with Sunday practices and games continues to be a factor in the lower attendance rate in the higher grades.

## **Parish History**

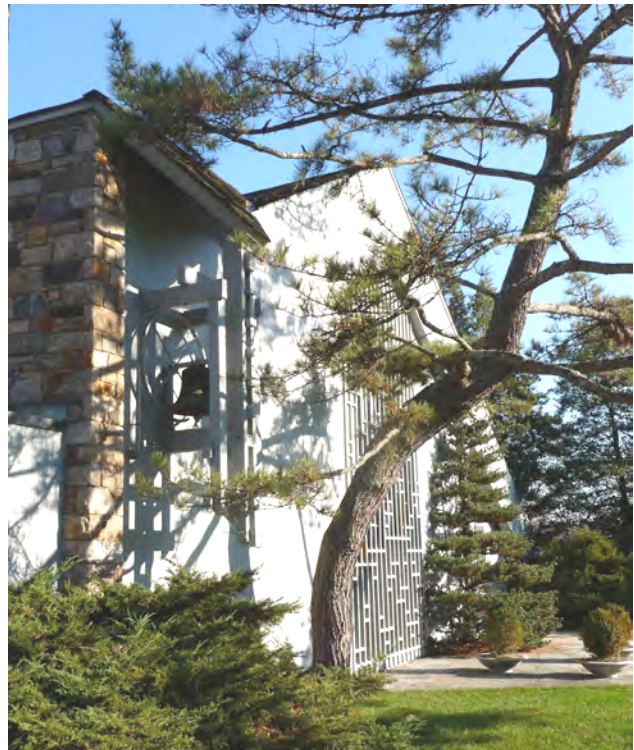
The following excerpts from “The Story of St. Barnabas Church” by Norma Bartol best reflect the rich history of our parish:

### **Brian Forrow (former long-time parish member and Senior Warden):**

“St. Barnabas began as a mission of Christ Church to the back country. The first service was held in a small barn on John Street on June 10, 1956, the eve of the feast of St. Barnabas. Hence the name. The small wooden cross, now on the outside wall of our Sunday school building originally helped mark the barn as a church. The move from the barn to our present church was a great step forward. Gifford and David Agnew provided the land and Philip Ives provided the architectural design and won a prize for it. The fundamental principles of the architecture were simplicity and warmth, an enveloping stone wall to the left curving upward in faith and a focus on the altar with light streaming in through stained glass from the east.”

### **Jim Kinnear (long-time member of St. Barnabas)**

“Mary and I, and our four children, Robin, Susan, Wesley and Will joined St. Barnabas Church in the fall of 1964. We had met Don and Lydia Earnshaw through our sons’ membership in the Cub Scouts and the Earnshaws told us what a warm welcome we would receive at St. Barnabas. They were right.



“St. Barnabas was then a mission church in the parish of Christ Church, Greenwich. I was invited to join the executive committee of the mission. We decided that St. Barnabas was by then big enough and strong enough to leave the Parish of Christ Church and become a parish in its own right. This involved considerable negotiation with Christ Church, who were very supportive. It also

involved a petition to the Bishop of Connecticut and the need to demonstrate our financial soundness. This we did, and soon we became a parish with all the attendant responsibilities including that of the calling of our own Rector. We called the Reverend Harold (Hal) Bassage, who was already serving us. When one calls a Rector, one has to house him, and so we rented a house on Richmond Hill Road for Hal and his wife Anne. A Building Committee was formed, including myself. We selected a Deck House construction, which remains the central part of our expanded Rectory today.”

The cornerstone for the new church was laid in September of 1958, and the parish celebrated the 50-year anniversary of this event with a joyous gala celebration at the Indian Harbor Yacht Club in fall of 2008.

**The Reverend Richard Van Wely (Rector 1976-2002)**

“At 50 years, St. Barnabas is a relatively young church when compared with other churches in the downtown area and across Connecticut. Its brief history, however, has been filled with an energetic and dedicated succession of members who, whether they realize it or not, are of the same mind as the founders of the little mission that began in a tack house. How quickly it went from there to a solid parish with a house of worship and natural setting that are unique, often breathtaking in the harmony of their combined presence. That inspiring image is closely linked to the contemplative comfort of a spiritual home in which to take a breath that nurtures the soul. The founders had a vision and a mission – an open-ended commitment “to love and serve the Lord with gladness and singleness of heart.” They built a place where family and friends could gather in fellowship for prayer and sacraments, and to get their marching orders for welcoming others to join them or to serve them in their need – in thanksgiving – all to the glory of God.”

**Membership Statistics**

	2001	2005	2007	Present
Baptized Members	871	620	621	626
Adult Members 16 and Over	814	581	582	586
Average Sunday attendance	132	111	109	100
Easter Attendance	598	434	388	385
Baptisms	11	3	6	1
Confirmations	18	10	6	4

**Property - Buildings**

Our Property Committee continues to maintain the integrity of the St. Barnabas buildings. Recent repairs include: new lighting fixtures, clearing of the drain from the atrium to the parking lot, patching the roof above the hall outside the meeting room, replacing some old window sills, staining the exterior woodwork between the stained glass windows to the right of the altar.

We have a beautiful, spacious, four-bedroom rectory and made several improvements to the space this past year. Repairs include: replacing 17 single panes of glass with energy efficient double pane glass, installing new carpeting and vinyl wood floor covering in the old section of the rectory, retiling the two lower level bathrooms, installing exhaust fans, new vanities, mirrors and lights, painting the interior of the old section of the rectory and refinishing the interior window sills, installing new blinds in the kitchen-breakfast area and the lower level family room and guest bedroom. New window treatments will be installed in the master bedroom.

New roofing will be installed over the hall from the parish administrator's office to the rector's office and the roof over the parlor. Funds also have been approved to clean and seal the deck at the rectory.

### **Property – Grounds**



Our parish grounds are quite lovely and add to the serenity of our holy space. Our Grounds Committee continues to monitor and maintain the landscaping. This year included pruning, basic maintenance and a few small projects completed.

The stone steps on either side of the driveway were re-set and a temporary light was installed for safety on the steps. There are plans to redo the wiring and install a permanent fixture.

The drain in the atrium had several instances of flooding causing some damage in the hall. Consequently, we cleaned the drain through to the point of water dispersal near the driveway.

The Grounds Committee is considering the following projects: Replacing several Japanese black pines, replacing the bluestone walk

from the steps to the parish house door, rejuvenation of the landscaping surrounding the rectory.

## Financial Stewardship

One or two parishioners are asked by the vestry to lead the stewardship campaign on an annual basis. The stewardship program is informal and the focus is on the last few months of the year. The budget is developed annually. It assumes the ability to raise a certain amount of stewardship dollars. The primary source of income is pledging. Occasionally, we supplement the income from fund raising activities. There are substantial endowment resources from which we have not, historically, drawn upon for annual support, but recently an annual spending policy was developed for the general endowment. There is an annual audit and a financial committee to oversee the financial affairs of the parish.

## Pledging statistics

	2005	2006	2008	2010
Pledge Units	188	167	135	139

The number of pledging units at St. Barnabas has been on the decline since 2005, when there were 188 to 2011, which thus far is close to 110. The weekly plate offering has recently averaged \$500. Everything is accounted for on a cash basis and all expenditures and receivables go on the books. We utilize the methods prescribed by the diocese in nearly every aspect of our operations and we have very good control over management of our funds.

## Summary Financials 2011 – Annual Budget and Endowment

### Revenues

Stewardship	\$638,268
Plate Offering	26,000
Other Income	5,160
“Trinkets” Tag Sale	24,000
Income from Endowment	<u>50,000</u>
	\$743,428

### Expenses

Rector (salary & benefits)	\$146,452
Associate/Assistant Rector (part year)	58,433
Lay Staff (music director, parish administrator, finance administrator)	236,519
Office Expenses and Supplies	41,948
Program (music, education, parish life)	18,630
Pledge to Diocese	90,000
Outreach Donations	39,000
Buildings and Grounds Management	<u>112,220</u>
	\$743,202

St. Barnabas is one of five endowed parishes within diocese of Connecticut. Our overall portfolio increased 11.5% in 2010 from growth in equity mutual funds.

There are separate investment accounts for the various funds to permit investment strategies tailored to each fund.

### **Endowment Funds**

General Fund Endowment	\$1,439,190
Facility Repair and Replacement Endowment	1,053,934
Outreach Endowment	187,806
Special Funds	<u>14,121</u>
	\$2,695,051

### **Lay Ministry**

Lay Eucharistic ministers are trained and supervised by the rector and are scheduled on a rotating basis, organized by the parish office.

There is no pastoral care team in place although some parishioners have expressed interest in one. The rector currently meets the needs of pastoral care.

Clergy and parishioners normally welcome new members, although there is no formal “welcoming team” in place. Our interim rector is organizing a welcoming dinner at the rectory for new members and is working with parishioners to put a greeting team in place.

### **Missions/Outreach**

We’ve continued to seek new opportunities to help and support others around the world while extending our resources and helping hands to those near our home.

After a visitation from Bishop Ian Douglas, we were inspired to change the name of our Outreach Committee to Missions/Outreach. He

explained that Missions is a more appropriate title as we (all of us) have been sent out into the world at the time of our Baptism to be disciples of Christ.



Following are some of the projects we worked on this past year:

We sent school supplies and small personal necessities to Good Samaritan School, Haiti following the devastating earthquake. (The school has been demolished and there are plans to rebuild.) This past February we held a Hope for Haiti Dinner celebration to help support scholarships for the Good Samaritan School, the Haiti-Vassar Art project and Hope for Haiti which was a wonderful evening of fellowship, complete with Haitian food, art, music and a fabulous drum circle.



We partnered with St. Boltolph's, London, to build a school in Songo, Angola. We received pictures of the construction of the school, which is near completion and a part of St. Barnabas Church.

Parishioners donated items for care packages to local troops in Afghanistan. 220 care packages were sent from Greenwich by Greenwich Military Covenant of Care team to Connecticut National Guard Alpha Company, headquartered in Stratford, CT.

Parishioners volunteered at Neighbor to Neighbor on Saturday, October 30, and donated to the Fall Food Drive.

Our Church School children decorated reusable bags for the Thanksgiving Dinner Food Drive for St. Luke's LifeWorks and we collected food for 20 complete dinners.



At our annual Christmas Sharing Party in December, we hosted 17 families with 40 children from the Greenwich Department of Social Services. This is an event with food, cupcake decorating, games and Christmas presents for underprivileged children in Greenwich. The party has proven very popular with the young children and their parents for whom Christmas might not otherwise be a

bright one and also with parishioners who share in the joy of giving.

Every three years St. Barnabas sponsors “Trinkets to Treasures,” which is a type of tag sale. Parishioners contribute all manner of household goods, which are sold at reduced prices. This provides a wealth of needed items for people of all income levels. It also serves as an energetic community building enterprise and a source of funding for our Missions/Outreach efforts.

Our Annual Bake Sale raised \$1,100 and the special Jewelry Sale raised \$930 for our Missions/Outreach funding.

Additional Holiday Contributions went to Community Centers, Inc. for breakfasts for school children, Neighbor to Neighbor for additional food purchases and St. Luke’s LifeWorks for their Youth Center.

St. Barnabas made a special contribution to St. Luke’s LifeWorks for their new Youth Center for Homeless Children, which was the first significant donation for the center to be built this year. The funds were from Trinkets to Treasures and the Memorial Outreach Fund.

### **Missions/Outreach Allocations**

Beneficiaries	2009	2010
Divinity Schools		
Berkeley (Yale)	1300	1500
General Theological Seminary, NY		1000
Virginia Theological Seminary	1300	1500
Bishop’s Fund for Children	3200	3200
Carver Center		
Regular	3800	3800
Camperships	2700	2700
Community Centers, Inc.	2200	2200
year-end gift		400
Episcopal Charities of NY		1000
Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem		1000
Episcopal Relief and Development	2650	2650
Greenwich Chaplaincy	2650	2650
Greenwich Social Services		
(camperships)	3200	3200
Haitian Mission of Stamford	1900	1900
(Eglise Epiphanie)		
Iglesia Episcopal Dominicana	1000	1000
Laurel House	1600	1600
Neighbor to Neighbor	1600	1800
St. Luke's LifeWorks	6400	6000

year-end gift		800
Youth Center for Homeless Children		5000
Subtotal Supported Charities	35500	44900
Christmas Sharing Party	1103	1100
Youth Projects	1103	1100
New Projects	1929	900
Total Supported Charities + Direct Outreach	\$39,634	\$48,000
Sources	2009	2010
Operating Budget	34,500	34,500
Memorial Outreach (e.g., Trinkets)	12,000	12,000
Bake Sale, Jewelry sale		2,030
Total Sources	\$46,500	\$48,530
Difference	6,866	530

Note: Beneficiaries usually receive half their funds in June and in December. Camperships are fully paid in June

## **Evangelism**

As a community of faith, we live out the Gospel of Jesus Christ in the deeds we do through our many outreach efforts, not only to local but foreign organizations and projects. Given the constraints imposed by family and professional commitments, our parishioners find that these deeds are effective, powerful reminders of Christ's request that we "Love one another."

We have begun to open ourselves to sharing with each other our life in Christ, knowing that opening up is a process. Joyfully, an increasing number of parishioners are embarking on this fascinating and wonderful journey.

As yet, we have had no specific education or training in evangelism; we need to learn if there is a developing core of parishioners who want to explore what that means to us and to others.

## **Parish Administration**

A longstanding, collegial relationship has existed among the leaders of St. Barnabas, and an atmosphere of full disclosure continues to exist and is strongly supported by all members of our leadership. Recent examples include the time

when our former rector answered his call to another church in the summer of 2010; our wardens acted as ecclesiastical authorities with strong support from the vestry. And recently when, in an email to the parish, our senior warden emphasized that “it is very important that decisions undertaken at St. Barnabas be made in an open and transparent way so that all parishioners can have confidence in the decision making process.”

The vestry is made of up 12 members, clergy and four officers. The rector/interim rector leads the meeting. The meetings begin with reflection on a selection from Holy Scripture and are a combination of decision making, hearing reports, and offering comment and suggestions. Vestry members also serve on at least one committee of the parish, reporting to the vestry on the activities of the committee on a regular, rotating basis. In this way the clergy, officers and vestry members are kept current with the many programs and activities taking place at St. Barnabas.



At present we have a full-time interim rector and welcomed our new assistant to the rector, the Rev. Jules Jodko, this past May. Jules will share in worship and have the responsibility of Christian formation and education of our parish youth. Our music and liturgy director and parish administrator are full-time employees. The present staff of interim rector, music and liturgy director, and parish administrator has a strong collegial relationship. A section leader of the choir who is a part-time employee leads our youth choir. A total of four part-time, paid employees are responsible for nursery care and for coffee making and cleaning up after Sunday morning Coffee Hour. We hire a cleaning service, which sets up for events as well as cleans. During the last several years, we have had employee turnover with our financial administrators who are part-time. In June, we hired Gail Coviello, our new part-time financial administrator.

## **Wider Church Involvement**

The parish currently supports the diocese with an annual contribution of budget income. Clergy and laity regularly attend diocesan conventions.

Rev. Van Wely was dean and sub-dean of Stamford Deanery and served on numerous committees within the diocese as well as the boards of St. Luke's LifeWorks and Carver Center. Rev. Alves served on the Standing Committee, as well as national church activities including membership in the Compass Rose Society.

We look forward to increased ecumenical involvement and we currently have a companion relationship with St. Botolph's, London, to build a school in Angola. Rev. Alan McCormack of St. Botolph's has preached at St. Barnabas when in Greenwich.

## **Our Parish – Our Sanctuary**

The “serene and holy space” included among our vision statements is both metaphor and real. We lead busy and hectic lives. We are deluged daily with information, ideas, and opinions. The St. Barnabas sanctuary is just that, a place to be quiet and welcomed, alone and in community, eyes drawn to the embrace of the curving wall and large, simple cross at its center. It is also a place to be still, to know God, to raise together a joyful song, to be contrite and humbled, to be forgiven, to be restored, and from which to be sent forth. The curved walls, Christ’s arms, beckon and comfort, but they do not close or exclude. In that embrace is also power and a push, to return to the busy world refreshed and empowered by the Holy Spirit. The words spoken over the centuries charge us and linger in our ears:



“...that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise, not only with our lips, but in our lives, by giving up our selves to your service...”

“...we humbly beseech thee, O heavenly Father, so to assist us with thy grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all such good works as thou hast prepared for us to walk in...”

“...And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. ...”

From a member of the Altar Guild

## **Executive Summary Results of the Parish Survey**

We are a traditional, via media parish, with a conservative bent. Of survey respondents, a large majority are 51 or older and women slightly outnumber men. Most parishioners are married (92% are married or widowed). We are highly educated (42% hold college degrees; 48%, graduate degrees). A large majority

have attended St. Barnabas 11 years or longer; a majority, more than 20 years. A large majority attend services on a weekly or bi-monthly basis.

We were drawn to St. Barnabas because of the clergy, liturgy, parish community, child and youth programs, and the music program. We value our warm fellowship and strong sense of community. A majority, across the age spectrum, would like to have Morning Prayer be part of the worship cycle.

We seek intellectually challenging sermons that are spiritually inspiring and applicable to our daily lives and would welcome guest preachers from time to time. A large majority rank the Church School highest in Christian education and formation, followed closely by adult forums led by the rector and Bible study.

We seek a rector who delivers intellectually stimulating sermons; is able to assist individuals facing problems, decisions, or emotional issues; can act as a spiritual guide; is able to inspire and connect with youth and parents; can develop programs to attract and expand the membership; and with whom we can have a personal relationship.

### **Bishops - Episcopal Diocese of Connecticut**

**The Rt. Reverend Dr. Ian T. Douglas**, Bishop Diocesan

**The Rt. Reverend James E. Curry**, Bishop Suffragan

**The Rt. Reverend Laura J. Ahrens**, Bishop Suffragan

Contact: Diocesan House, 1335 Asylum Avenue, Hartford, CT 06105-2295  
Phone: 860-233-4481 Web site: [www.ctepiscopal.org](http://www.ctepiscopal.org)

### **Clergy in Charge - Past and Present**

**The Reverend Daniel Hardy**, Vicar 1956-1959 - St. Barnabas is a mission of Christ Church, Greenwich.

**The Reverend Edwin Bailey**, Vicar 1959-1965

**The Reverend Dr. Harold Bassage**, Vicar, then Rector 1966-1976 - Semi-retired, then called to another parish within the diocese for a brief time and finally joined the staff of St. Luke's, Darien, until his full retirement.

**The Reverend Richard Van Wely**, Rector 1976-2002 - Retired and was appointed Rector Emeritus of St. Barnabas by Rev. Alves in 2007.

**The Reverend Richard Mallory**, Interim Rector 2002-2004

**The Reverend Robert Alves**, Rector 2004-2010 - Called to St. John's parish in Fayetteville, NC.

**The Reverend Dr. Ann J. Broomell**, Interim Rector 2010 - present

**Officers of the Vestry**

Senior Warden	Bill Nickerson
Junior Warden	Terry Birdsong
Treasurer	George Williamson
Clerk	Val Storms

**Vestry**

David Beale, Pam Fontana, Bill Galvin, Ed Harding, Susan Holey, Kimberly Johnson, Larry Larson, Rachel McAree, Louisa McCall, Rich Raymond, John Sargent, Cindy Wallace

**Diocesan Delegates**

Terry Birdsong  
Susan Jackson

**Alternate Diocesan Delegates**

Bill Nickerson  
Lori Samuel

The Calling Committee was elected by an all-parish vote at the January 2011 annual meeting and is working with diocesan consultant Emily Puskar, who reports to **The Rev. Canon Erik W. Larsen**, Canon for Transition Ministry.

**Calling Committee Members**

Phoebe Erdman	Stuart Orrick, Chaplain
Ed Harding	Lori Samuel
Ginger Jenks	John Sargent
Mary Ellen LeBien, Clerk	Jonathan Simon
Bill Nickerson, Sr. Warden	Marree Townsend
Michael Parker, Chair	Sue Ann Williamson, Vice Chair

**The Community of Greenwich, CT**

Greenwich was founded in 1640 and has a rich history.

**Geography**

Greenwich has many parks and multi-acre home sites that help reveal the area's undulating hills, dramatic rock outcroppings, 200-year-old stone walls, and multiple rivers and streams---all of which contrast to its well-preserved coastal marsh lands and public beaches.



### **Political/Administrative Unit**

The mayor is known as “First Selectman”; s/he works with a town legislature of elected officials called the “Representative Town Meeting” or “RTM.”

### **Particular Identity**

Greenwich is an affluent coastal community with easy access to New York City; the town is noted for its public and private schools as well as its public beaches and parks.



### **Distinct Neighborhoods**

Located along the coast of Long Island Sound, Greenwich contains multiple distinct villages, each with its own elementary school and most with their own post office and zip code: Byram, Glenville, Greenwich, Cos Cob, North Mianus, Riverside, Old Greenwich

### **Focal points of the Community**

- A town park on Long Island Sound named Greenwich Point, known to locals as “Tod’s Point”
- Greenwich Library – the most often accessed library in New England after the Boston Public Library
- Greenwich Avenue – the main shopping area with a spectrum of all types of retail stores and restaurants

St. Barnabas is located in “Backcountry Greenwich” (defined as north of the Merritt Parkway) and is approximately 15 minutes from Greenwich Library and Greenwich Avenue, and about 25 minutes from Greenwich Point.

### **Population**

The population of Greenwich has remained stable for the past 20 years. In 1990, it was 58,441 and is now 62,236. 47.4% are males and 52.6% are females, and the median resident age is 40.

Primarily, residents work in the financial services industry. Income levels vary dramatically--from low incomes to eight



billionaires---with a median income of over \$120,000. Education levels remain high, especially compared to the United States in general and to Connecticut in particular: more than 32% have a bachelor degree and almost 29% a graduate degree.

The population of the town continues to be diverse. One-sixth of all public school students, with 38 different first languages, are learning English as a second language.

### **Housing**

The Greater Greenwich area offers a wide range of styles and sizes of dwellings to choose from, including large estates, small cottages, condominiums and apartments. Properties can be found on the coastline, within walking distance of town, and in backcountry. Housing is expensive and the inventory is predominately owned residential properties with 38 % rented and few vacancies. Greenwich has a low percentage of residential turnover.

St. Barnabas has a rectory on its property providing clergy with desirable housing and has been completely renovated.

### **Public Schools**

Elementary: Cos Cob, Hamilton Avenue, International School of Dundee, North Street, Julian Curtiss, North Mianus, New Lebanon, Parkway, Riverside

Middle: Central Middle School, Eastern Middle School, Western Middle School

Greenwich High School

### **Private Schools**

Greenwich Academy, Greenwich Catholic School, Greenwich Country Day School, Brunswick School, Convent of the Sacred Heart, Stanwich School, Whitby School, Carmel Academy (a Jewish school), Greenwich Japanese School

### **Community Resources**

Greenwich, CT, is a prime location for travel by car or train to many locations in the northeast. New Haven is 60 miles north and New York City is less than an hour south. There are three major airports surrounding New York City. Westchester Airport, located in White Plains, is a 15-minute drive from Greenwich. Transportation includes Amtrak, Metro North, CT Transit Buses, Greenwich Taxi and Airport Shuttle Services. The town of Greenwich has an abundance of leisure and recreational facilities. There are four public beaches and several private beaches on Long Island Sound. There are marinas, swim clubs, public parks, the Dorothy Hamill Skating Rink, playing fields, bike trails, horse-back riding trails, tennis courts and a town-owned 18-hole golf course.

Greenwich has one of the finest community hospitals in the US, which is affiliated with Yale New Haven Health Care System. Greenwich has an assortment of

community associations including a YMCA and YWCA, the United Way, the Red Cross, Community Answers, the Garden Education Center, the Greenwich Junior League, the League of Women Voters and numerous men's clubs.

Residents of Greenwich are known for their diverse interests and support of the arts. There is the Bruce Museum, the Greenwich Arts Council, the Greenwich Symphony Orchestra, theater groups and two, very active, civic centers. Greenwich is in close proximity to the Stamford Center for the Performing Arts and all that New York City has to offer.

With all the strengths, there are challenges. Greenwich is an aging community, with more seniors choosing to remain in their homes. The challenge is when people reach higher ages and need support. The opportunity comes with active, healthy seniors who have time and other resources to share with the community. Being a high achieving community can cause challenges with the children because of expectations that they, too, will be high achievers in every aspect of their lives. Some may feel their accomplishments are never good enough and the pressure is pushing them to engage in unsafe and inappropriate behavior. Local organizations are developing different types of opportunities to engage different groups of youths to put their talents and energies to good use.

### **Community Web sites**

[www.greenwichct.org](http://www.greenwichct.org)

This is the Town website and contains all kinds of information, including the various boards, schools, commissions, and agencies.

[www.greenwichlibrary.org](http://www.greenwichlibrary.org)

This accesses Greenwich Library and has useful community links and lists all programs at the main, Byram, and Cos Cob libraries with a link to Perrot Library in Old Greenwich.

[www.brucemuseum.org](http://www.brucemuseum.org)

An introduction to The Bruce Museum, which has a regional reputation with plans to expand.

[www.hstg.org](http://www.hstg.org)

Historical Society of the Town of Greenwich including pictures and information about historical and evolving Greenwich.

For in-depth statistical information about Greenwich, go to [www.unitedway-greenwich.com](http://www.unitedway-greenwich.com) and its link to State of Greenwich Statistical Portrait.