

Shrewsbury Parish Newsletter

# The Shrewsbury In Vision



# WINTER 2023

**Join Us for the Annual Meeting on  
February 26, 2023**

We will have one service at  
9:00 a.m. followed by  
breakfast served by the men  
of Shrewsbury and our  
Annual Parish Meeting.



**Shrewsbury  
Episcopal  
Parish**

The Reverend Henry Sabetti  
Rector

The Reverend Stephan Klingelhofer  
Priest Associate

The Reverend Dr. Thomas Sinnott  
Hispanic Missioner

12824 Shrewsbury Church Road  
Kennedyville  
(410.348.5944 )

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shrewsburychurch@gmail.com

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## **The Annual Blessing**

Each year in February we make plans for the Annual Parish Meeting. Those plans begin by the recruitment of usually three or more persons to take on a three year commitment to serve on the Vestry, the governing body of laypersons for the parish. Our Treasurers and Finance Committee assist one another in preparing the year's operating budget, based largely on pledge contributions made each fall at Pledge Sunday time and from the stewardship efforts in the fall and during the year. The budget is presented and accepted at the Annual Meeting after having been approved by the Vestry prior to the meeting. Reports are written and presented by our Wardens and Committee Chairpersons and by myself. We try to the best of our ability to give a synopsis of the last year and a look at the year to come.

Historically the Annual Meeting has never been the highlight of my Christian journey. I have tended to view it as a necessary event for the good of the parish we know, love and are committed to. Quite often it has been a chore getting people to stay for the meeting after the 10:00 am service. It is even harder to get our 7:30 attendees to return. I do understand. Church business can be at times a tad boring.

Yet my dear friends, it need not be this way! The Annual Meeting this year will offer an opportunity to be fed. First by the sacred meal of the Holy Eucharist and then by a full breakfast, courtesy of the men of Shrewsbury. **That's right, in lieu of Shrove Tuesday (February 21<sup>st</sup>) this year, we are having the Annual Meeting and Parish Breakfast after our one combined worship service at 9:00 am on Sunday, February 26<sup>th</sup>.** Needless to say, we want and need YOU to come that morning and:

**Worship**

**Eat**

**Learn**

So, this year and hopefully for many years to follow, I want to change not only my opinion of the Annual Meeting but yours as well. Let's call it **the Annual Meeting of Blessings**. Because, what you will hear about are a series of amazing blessings given to us by God through "the work of human hands," the stewardship of this parish and the amazing number of ministries taking place in the parish and the community. As a real plus, you will hear and see up close the amazing GIS system for our cemetery, presented by our Assistant Cemetery Warden Maura Ryan. Friends, trust me, this is great stuff!

Shrewsbury, as you will hear, is more than alive and well. We are, for a parish our size, in a rural county, in the middle of corn and soy bean fields, booming with energy, passion and the abundant love of God and God's people.

Join us on Sunday February 26<sup>th</sup> (and every Sunday) to worship, to eat and to learn and to do so in the name of God.

Blessings and Peace,

Henry+

The Rev. Henry M. Sabetti, Rector

## SHREWSBURY SOCIAL MINISTRIES

The Social Ministries Committee (SMC) would not be able to accomplish all of these activities without help. God guides us on our way and the collective support of the congregation and dedication of our committee members makes all of this possible.

Coalition for the Homeless through direction from Father Henry and Carol Niemand:

- Collection of household items

- Weekly hot meals for up to 20 individuals

- Funding

Virtual Souper Bowl of Caring donations

A new car seat for a newborn

Tea party snack booth for information and funds for the KC Coalition for the Homeless

Horizon lunch for 112 students and staff. McDonalds contributed the hamburgers and SMC provided other food items.

Monthly sweet treats for Wednesday AA meetings by SMC

Over whelming amount of support from the congregation for annual SMC Activities:

- School supplies-to Garnett students

- Soctober- October collection of sock hats, gloves and socks

- Thanksgiving-two bags and a turkey for each 21 families

- Angel Tree-Toys or clothes for 14 children

Hannah and Jack Fund for Children- A Chestertown student wanting to play a violin, received her own violin funded by the endowment and is receiving lessons from her music teacher. If anyone knows of a child with an ambition or need, contact Roberta Brown or Sue Coleman for more information.

Social Ministry Committee (SMC) Members Father Henry, Bob, Carol, Emily, Janet, Jose, Katie, Marcie. Sue, and Rich thanks Elizabeth, Shrewsbury's Office Administrator for her support and expertise and all of you, supporters.

Come join us most second Tuesdays at 6 PM in Shrewsbury's Parish Hall.

Submitted by SMC co-chairs,

Emily Cassidy and Sue Coleman

# Socketober!

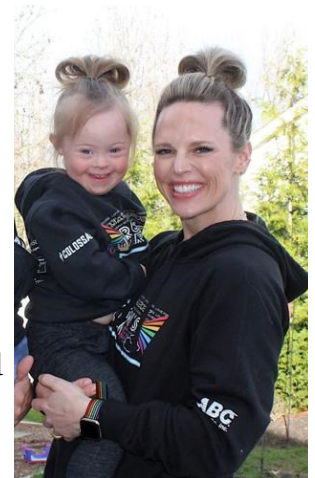




Social Ministry Committee (SMC) Members: Father Henry, Bob, Carol, Emily, Janet, Jose, Katie, Marcie, Sue, and Rich

Thank you to Elizabeth, Shrewsbury's Office Administrator, for her support and expertise and all of you, supporters.

The Souper Bowl raised \$550.00 which will be going to support Ruby's Rainbows. The Ruby's Rainbows mission is to "support adult students with Down Syndrome in achieving their dreams of higher education while spreading awareness of their capabilities and general awesomeness!! We provide college scholarships for students with Down syndrome attending post-secondary programs in the U.S., and shout their worth to the rooftops!!" This donation will be in conjunction with a 3.21 mile trail run on Kent Island in honor of World Down Syndrome Day. Rowan's Run as the run is named in honor of local child will be on March 25th at 9:00 a.m.



Ash Wednesday  
February 22, 2023  
Holy Eucharist with Imposition of Ashes  
12:00 p.m. & 6:00 p.m.  
“Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return.”

A Lenten Journey  
With Barbara Brown Taylor

stories and spiritual practices for deepening our humanity and connection with others  
February 28 - March 28, 2023 Tuesday Evenings 6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. on Zoom

As we approach the holy season of Lent, I am writing to encourage you to consider participating in a joint venture with the Retreat House at Hillsboro and members of St. Paul's, Trappe. My colleague and friend the Rev. Nathaniel Pierce and I look forward to joining together with members of our congregations during this venture.

Together we will enter an ongoing, five- week journey of reading, reflecting and discussing the wonderful book, "An Altar in the World," by Barbara Brown Taylor. This series is limited to 15 persons, so you will want to register as soon as possible to reserve your space. The series will be offered on Tuesday evenings beginning February 28th from 6-7:30 pm on ZOOM. You can participate from the comfort of your home.

Following discussions with Francie Thayer and Heather Strang at the Retreat House, we have received a very gracious group rate for participants. And as always, please feel free to ask me for scholarship assistance. Much work and preparation by the Retreat House staff will go into presenting this series and your fee assists their efforts and the vital and thriving ministry of the Retreat House.

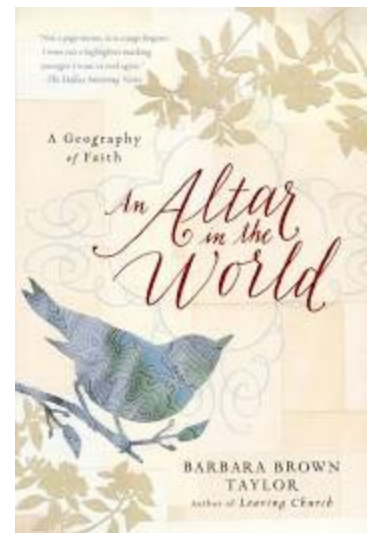
Please contact me with any questions and please consider making the commitment to engage in what promises to be a wonderful Lenten journey.

Finally, should anyone have copies of the book they are willing to loan, please let me know.

Blessings,

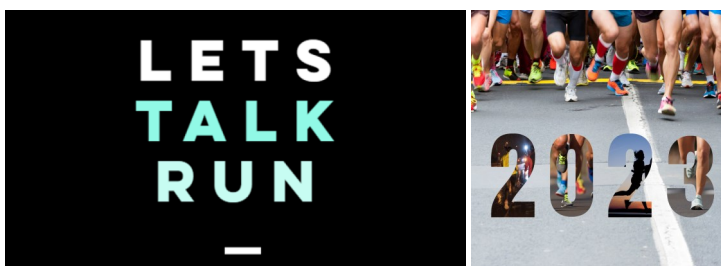
Henry+

The Rev. Henry Sabetti



## Annual Pledge

**Thank you** to all who submitted their annual pledge card. Your treasurers use these cards as the foundation of the church's annual budget. Overall, the pledge amounts to about 65% of expenditures for essentials like personnel and utilities, giving us a start on planning for the needs of the church in the coming year. We usually refer the card as a "pledge" although it's an estimate of annual giving, not an actual pledge. The first draft of the budget will go to the Vestry for review at its January meeting and to the entire congregation for approval at the annual meeting in February.



### Half Marathoners from Shrewsbury

On Sunday March 19, 2023 members and friends of the parish will be running the Shamrock Half Marathon in Virginia Beach. Please keep them in your prayers as they train and prepare for this great event, one of the most popular races in the Mid Atlantic.

The runners are Brenda Ewing, Daniel Mitzel, Kelly Schelts, Jack Spray, Lisa Sabetti and Henry Sabetti. Fr. Steve will be the Celebrant that Sunday at Shrewsbury!

### Kent County Parks and Recreation Road Runners Club

On March 20, 2023, children from the middle school through high school can join the KCRR Club under the leadership of Coach Henry Sabetti.

The group will meet Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 5:30 p.m. at the Rec. Center in Worton and prepare to run the 5K (3.1) at the Radcliffe Running Festival, held on May 27, 2023 during the Annual Tea Party Festival in Chestertown. This is the 2nd year for this club and last year several children completed their first 5k and had a wonderful group experience.

No experience is necessary, only a desire to learn and improve one's fitness. Contact the KC Recreation Center to register or Fr. Henry (301-418-0908) with any questions

## Carol L. Niemand Inducted into Maryland Senior Citizens Hall of Fame

*Tidewater Trader December 7, 2022*

Carol L. Niemand has been involved in many endeavors that impact the lives of others since her retirement from the Fairfax, Virginia school system 15 years ago. She has been an advocate for the arts and the beautification of the environment and instrumental in several local outreach efforts.

This year, Carol was not only inducted as a 2022 Honoree into the Maryland Senior Citizens Hall of Fame, but also received the state's GERI Award, awarded to those who have performed extraordinary volunteer service.

Each year, nominations are accepted and reviewed by the Selection Committee. Maryland senior citizens 65 years of age or older who have made outstanding volunteer contributions affecting the lives of people in the State of Maryland are eligible. A maximum of 50 qualified nominees are inducted into the Hall of Fame each year; 19 individuals were honored this year. Of these recipients, a maximum of five are also selected to receive the prestigious GERI Award. As the arts and sciences have their Grammy, Emmy, Tony, and Oscar, so do the senior citizens of Maryland have their GERI - the geriatric "Nobel Prize" for extraordinary humanitarian community service.

In connection with Shrewsbury's Vacation Bible School, Carol supervised the construction of wooden flower boxes that were planted by children and then placed at several local schools. She also helped plant the native garden donated and designed by Unity Nursery at Sumner Hall, Post #25. You can find Carol's floral arrangements adorning the studio of RiverArts in Chestertown on First Fridays.

Several years ago, Carol facilitated the African American Revolutionary War Art Exhibit so that middle school children could learn more about history through art. It was led by three local artists in the 8th grade art classes at Kent School, Radcliffe Creek School, and Kent County Middle School under a grant available through Kent County Cultural Alliance. The final creations were displayed in an exhibit for the dedication of the new Cerino Marina at Downrigging two years ago.

Before and during COVID, Chestertown American Legion Post 36, along with local businesses and churches, formed Minary's Dream Alliance, a non-profit out of which a food bank operates serving seniors and delivering over 200 bags per week to those people in need. Carol is a regular volunteer with this service, packing and delivering food to the unhoused at two local motels.

Of late, Ms. Niemand, under the auspices of Shrewsbury Parish Church and its Pastor, Henry Sabetti, started a homeless initiative at Driftwood Motel in Chestertown. Over the past year lodging, food, friendship and services has been provided to over 22 individuals and families in 9 rooms. This undertaking has now morphed into the Kent County Coalition for the Homeless, gaining 501(c)(3) status through Chesapeake Charities and its Director, Linda Kohler. The operation began January 6th, 2022 and currently only two individuals remain to be housed. The goal has been and will always remain to create a 24-hour homeless shelter in Kent County.

Ms. Niemand is committed to impacting the lives of the less fortunate. Many in the local community have been touched by her efforts. Congratulations to Carol for being recognized and honored by the state, and thanks for your continued dedication and perseverance in helping others.



Looking Ahead

## Women's Social Gathering

The next Women's Social Gathering will be on March 23<sup>rd</sup> at the Shrewsbury Parish Hall. It will be a Paint Night from 6-8 p.m. hosted by Lucinda McCarten, a member of the Parish. More details to follow

## The Homeless Shelter- March 2023

The Presbyterian Church of Chestertown  
410-778-6057  
Rev. Joel Tolbert  
905 Gateway Drive, Chestertown, MD. 21620

## Homecoming 2023

The Rector, Vestry, and Wardens of Shrewsbury Parish Church and Cemetery will host the 330<sup>th</sup> Homecoming and Memorial Services will be held on September 10, 2023.

During each service we will honor the many veterans in our historic cemetery by ceremonially reading their names during each service. These honored men and women served our country, many sacrificing their lives. Please join us to worship with God's people, the parishioners of Shrewsbury Parish Church.

More details to follow in the coming months.



Thank you to the Shrewsbury Altar Guild for the upgrades to the Sacristy!

They are currently underway.