

# THE GOOD NEWS LETTER

Vol. 8 No. 9

Serving St. David's & St. John's Episcopal Churches

October 2002

<b>Crop Walk</b>	.....	<b>Page 2</b>
<b>The Healing Corner</b>	.....	<b>Page 3</b>
<b>Watermen's Corner</b>	.....	<b>Page 4</b>
<b>UTO every day</b>	.....	<b>Page 7</b>

## St. David's

Fr. David R. Pike, Rector, Church Box 103  
Edith Cole, Secretary, Box 26  
Sue Gabel, Administrative Assistant  
Dr. Timothy Flynn, Music Director

## Vestry

John Strickler, Sr. Warden, Box 134  
Bill Fleener, Jr., Jr. Warden, Box 37  
Dave Byers, Treasurer, Box 15  
Ron Schavey, Box 44  
Scott Foster, Box 121  
Dawn Iverson, Box 138  
Gail Donovan, Box 17  
Debbie Davis, Box 28  
Tom George, Box 119  
John Post, Box 87  
Jerry Williams, Box 115  
Craig Leinbach, Box 27  
Nan Strickler, Secretary to the Vestry, Box 134

## St. John's

Rev. Carol A. Spangenberg, Rector  
Karen Gin, Secretary

## Vestry

Ted Dotts, Senior Warden  
William Gin, Junior Warden  
Deborah Walker, Secretary  
Mary Stafford  
Nina Robinson  
Cara Stapor  
Sandra Garrison  
Stephen Stofflet  
Alma Stahl  
Brett McRae  
Karen Steiner

## Newsletter

Ric Sorrell, e-mail: ric@sorrell-family.net, Box 140

### St. David's Episcopal Church

1519 Elmwood Road  
Lansing, MI 48917  
Telephone: 517-323-2272  
Fax: 517-323-2830  
E-mail: stdavids1519@aol.com  
Web: www.forministry.com/48917sdec

#### Service Schedule

Sunday: 8:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.  
Wednesday 6:30 p.m.  
Friday 7:00 a.m.  
Evening Prayer: M, T, Th, F 6:00 p.m.

### St. John's Episcopal Church

201 W. Shepherd Street  
Charlotte, MI 48813  
Telephone: 517-543-4430  
Fax: 517-543-2315 (Church)  
517-327-1839 (Rev. Carol)  
E-mail: stjohnepiscopalchurch201@yahoo.com  
Web: www.rural-net.com/stjohnschurch

#### Service Schedule

Sunday: 8:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.  
Wednesday 6:30 p.m.

## Crop Walk October 13<sup>th</sup>

By Maria Leiby

Every fall, several hundred people from churches around Lansing spend a Sunday afternoon walking to raise awareness about world hunger and funds to combat it. Everyone at St. David's can play a part—whether you are young or old.

First, we need **WALKERS**. It's great to be outside on a lovely fall afternoon—even better when you're doing something as worthwhile as the CROP WALK. We walk 6.2 miles and it's not a race! You can go at your own pace. There are rest stops along the way, with refreshments. And if the distance turns out to be too much, there are options for getting back to the starting point. Remember, we walk because so many people in the world have to walk—sometimes miles—just to get water for cooking or basic foodstuffs.

This year, we also need **ROCKERS**. If walking is not feasible for you, you can rock for an hour at one of the rest stops. It will help if you can bring a rocking chair, but you don't have to. Rockers will join walkers at the starting point, Dwight Rich Middle School, and then proceed to their locations. Transportation will be available.

We need **SPONSORS**. If you see someone at coffee hour with a pledge envelope, don't wait to be asked—speak up! Walking is easy compared to asking for money. Any contribution is welcome. It's great if you can pay before the walk, but please try to get your money soon afterward at the latest. **Make checks payable to CWS/CROP.**

You can help **FEED THE WALKERS & ROCKERS**. Pat and Gerry Purol have generously offered to make soup for us, but they could use some help with snacks, maybe some raw veggies and bread. Talk to the Purols or me about what you want to provide.

Remember—if we work together, we can accomplish a lot!

### St. David's October Birthdays

5	Barbara Jones
5	Heather McGinnis
5	Nancy George
6	William Stanton
6	Matt Hosmer
8	Michael Transeth
8	Betty Payne
12	Paula Hawes
13	Gerry Purol
15	Dawn Iverson
15	Lucille Burgess
16	Genevieve Strang
16	Marie Warren
19	Frank Howard
19	Tyrone Davis II
20	Lee Brooks
20	Gail Donovan
21	Maria Leiby
23	Jim Buzzie
24	Jeff Johnson

### October Anniversaries

5	Rod & Candace Snyder
9	Patrick & Rhonda Lawrence
10	Michael & Cassandra Vaughn
11	Craig & Abby Leinbach
11	Ray & Rose McNab
15	Edwin & Alice Vandermoere
18	Patrick Lynaugh & Randyll Shook

If you would like to have an audio cassette tape of Father Robert Taylor's sermon delivered at St. David's on September 29<sup>th</sup>, please write your name, mail box number (or home address), and the words "Fr. Taylor" and place it in John Post's mail box (#87).

## The Healing Corner

By Carolyn Jacobs

We, at St. David's, are all aware of the gift of prayer. We experience it at every service we attend, whether it is the Eucharist, Morning or Evening Prayer, or any of the other services that occur at St. David's. How we choose to use the gift of prayer is entirely up to us.

I was born a "Cradle Episcopalian" and raised one all of my life. I loved going to church from the time I was a little girl to the present. My journey in prayer, however, has grown over the years. Being raised in a very conservative Episcopal church and home, where most of the activity took place only on Sunday morning, didn't give me a very clear picture of the unbelievable power of prayer. I learned the Catechism and prayers used in the Eucharist by memory and repeated them faithfully, even though they didn't speak to me in a particularly powerful way. Sunday was the only time my prayers were used. I would have been flabbergasted to even think of praying for anyone other than myself. Praying for others was unheard of and never done at my church. I had never heard of having prayer ministers after the Sunday morning service. I was raised thinking the only one that could even lead prayers was the priest. After all, wasn't the priest supposed to take charge of everything, including the prayer life of the church? This seemed to serve me quite well through my adolescence and adult life, even though I was going through very difficult times at different points in my life. I didn't feel prayer was something I could use on a personal basis for healing myself.

I am very happy to say that when Francis and I came to St. David's in 1991, things started to change. Changes were gradual but they were happening. St. David's offered so many different spiritual opportunities that I had never been exposed to before. The most significant one for me has been learning about the power of prayer. I became a prayer minister several years ago with the gentle teaching of John and Barb Post. I learned the powerful feeling that I experienced in praying fervently for myself and for my family. I came to a new confidence in believing that my prayers would be heard by God and, if it were his will, they would be answered in his way and time. After feeling that prayer was a very positive and necessary element in my life, I started feeling like I could help others by praying for them at the altar rail after church. I found that by praying for others, I

would lose myself in a very healing way by reaching out for God to touch them and, by doing so, he was also touching and healing me. I sometimes feel after praying like I have been lifted up and renewed with a deeper understanding that God loves me and whatever I have to face, he is with me. I also am an associate member of the Order of St. Luke and we do healing ministry during the Eucharist periodically throughout the year.

I want you to know what a blessing and privilege it is for me to pray with you whenever I get the change. It is only through God's love and power that I am able to do this ministry. May God's blessings always be with you.

Your Sister in Christ

Carolyn Jacobs ✠

---

## Notes from St. John's

Please return the survey form that was sent out concerning our building expansion. It is very important that we have these as soon as possible. We need the information so we can apply for the grants.

If you are interested in teaching Wed. Christian Education or Sunday School please let Bonnie Bos or Karen Steiner or the Rector know as soon as possible.

We would like to invite anyone who is interested in the choir to come to the rehearsals on Wednesday night at 7p.m. or speak to our organist Vickie Thompson, we need your voice and your heart.

If your student would like to come to Wednesday Christian Education, please let the Rector know so arrangements can be made to pick the child(ren) up.

We are having our Saints Dinner, good old German food, on October 15 at 6 p.m. Please make your calendars....Great food and please bring a friend. ✠

## St. David's name tags

By John Post

The New Person Committee asks you to join them in thanking Carol Abbott and her Grandchildren for printing, assembling, and distributing the St. David's parish name tags! Great job!!! ✠

## Watermen's Corner

By Jim Thurston

Here is a summary of planned events the Watermen have lined up this year. We look forward to your participation and attendance.

### October events

By the time this is received in your mail box, the Watermen will have had its first speaker event open to the church and community on October 1, 2002. I hope you enjoyed it. Faris always enjoys community events so I know he enjoyed being with everyone and responding to your stimulating questions. I thank you in advance Faris, as I know you did a wonderful job.

### November events

There will be a special event for November on the evening of Veterans Day 2002 -- mark your calendar now to attend. There is more information about this event from Francis Jacobs elsewhere in the newsletter.

### December events

Duane Vernon of the Greater Lansing Credit Bureau will be our guest speaker, December 3, 2002 from 7 -9pm at St. David's. His presentation will broach the subject of credit, credit reports and how to obtain your credit report. This is an event that may interest all members of the family; even the teenagers who may ask the question " what is a credit report ." Duane may even tell a few stories about his involvement with the football and basketball programs of MSU. Hope to see you there.

We have other events in the making for 2003 so stay tuned.

### Job Jar

The job jar is waiting for your requests. Don't be shy - drop us a request or even a note to say Hi!

### Group openings

The Watermen have a good time during our fellowship on the first Tuesday of each month and

I invite all men to attend. There are no dues, strings or requirements attached but we do desire to provide a service to God, church, and community. Please make a meeting we'd enjoy your company.

God Bless! ✠

---

## SIREN struggles as weather turns cold and the economy gets worse

By John Strickler

Lisa Ward remembers exactly the day she became involved in Eaton Shelter.

It was 15 years ago. Lisa and her family were moving to a new house and found themselves with some excess furniture. Looking around for a place that could use it, she came across an organization called Eaton Shelter. A few days later the family that was to receive the furniture showed up in a truck provided by the shelter.

"I can remember the eyes of their two young children as they looked around our home, which was an ordinary house owned by a middle income family," Lisa recalls. "Their children couldn't believe our kids had toys and their own room and other things we would consider normal for any middle income family. That really opened my eyes."

Seven years ago Eaton Shelter merged with SIREN, a service agency providing domestic violence counseling. Today, the combined agency is the only one in Eaton County providing shelter for homeless families and victims of domestic violence.

SIREN has benefited from the generosity of St. David's parishioners for several years. The St. David's Outreach Committee has conducted a fruit sale for the last four years and donated the proceeds to the organization. Last year, with help from a matching gift from an anonymous donor, the sale raised nearly a thousand dollars. Thanksgiving, Christmas and Easter food baskets also go to SIREN families, as do left over items

from the annual ECW garage sale. In fact, St. David's and its families are one of the organization's largest private benefactors.

Unfortunately, SIREN has never been in greater need of our help. The organization has always operated on a shoe string, but times are now even tighter than normal. As Michigan's economy has soured, the number of families seeking help has soared. Compounding that has been a drastic drop in funding from the state, which recently cut SIREN's funding by more than thirty thousand dollars. As Ward puts it, "When you're an organization like SIREN, losing \$30,000 is a really big deal."

Even during "normal" times, SIREN's caseload swells when the weather turns cold. The rural poor don't stand out like those in large urban areas. Instead of sleeping on street corners, they find shelter in barns or campgrounds, or live out of their cars. But when cold weather comes, the need increases for more hospitable shelter. SIREN has space for 30 to 50 children in its available shelters. For many families, it's the only help they have.

SIREN provides more than shelter. It works with families to eliminate the things in their lives that made them homeless in the first place. For some that means help with budgeting. For others it means getting them out of abusive relationships. Still others need drug and alcohol counseling. SIREN also works with the Charlotte School District to provide role models to families through a mentoring program.

SIREN is a participating agency in the Capital Area United Way. Those who give to United Way through their company's payroll deduction program can direct that part or all of their annual pledge go to SIREN. Tax deductible contributions can also be made directly to the organization. They can be sent to SIREN/Eaton Shelter, 240 South Cochran, Charlotte, MI 48813.

## Breast cancer walk

By Sue Kohler

**Dear Friends** - I am writing to ask for your support for the **Making Strides Against Breast Cancer** walk in Lansing on Saturday, October 12<sup>th</sup>. Last year, through the generous support of many of you, Jaime and I raised over \$2500 for this great cause! (We were inspired by Jaime's godmother who had been recently diagnosed with breast cancer.) Thankfully we can report that Carol is a survivor – she came through the chemo and radiation treatments and is doing extremely well. I know she was healed through many prayers and the generosity of people like you who support the fight against breast cancer. Funds raised through **Making Strides Against Breast Cancer** will support scientific research, support groups for women fighting breast cancer, early detection programs, as well as others. **EVERY DOLLAR COUNTS!** We hope that we can count on your financial support again this year. Please make checks payable to the "**American Cancer Society**" and return to me (address below) by October 11<sup>th</sup>. Also, if you are so inclined, come walk with us – you'll be amazed at the hundreds of people who gather on the capitol lawn to participate in this 3.5 mile walk.

**Thank you & God Bless You!**

Sue Kohler

407 Corral Path, Lansing, MI 48917 ✉

---

## A night to remember

By Francis Jacobs

On Veterans' Day, Monday, November 11<sup>th</sup>, the Watermen and ECW of St. David's will be hosting a night of "Military Veterans". Come support and listen as veterans share their experiences and "war stories". Everyone is welcome, including all family members and friends of St. David's, especially those who are veterans. If you have any questions, please contact Francis Jacobs at 622-1983. ✉

## Christian Education October Calendar and Update

### September 29<sup>th</sup>

The Christian Education will be selling "Inspirational Calendars" for 2003. The calendars are beautiful and the cost is \$6.00 each. The monies earned from this fundraiser will help the children with upcoming events and summer camp. An order form is enclosed and we will have order forms available before and after the 10:30 a.m. service for the next three Sundays. The children are so excited about the calendars!!



### October

Operation Christmas Child will be starting in October. The Christmas wrapped shoeboxes will be available for you to pick up toward the end of October. Last year we donated 87 shoeboxes. Thank you everyone for your support last year and looking forward to this years "Operation Christmas Child."

Students will be starting on their Christmas Pageant toward the end of this month.

### October 20<sup>th</sup>

Youth Sunday, all grades will participate on Youth Sunday! Your child will be helping with the 10:30 a.m. church service and coffee hour. Please have your child bring a treat, cheese crackers, or anything your child would like to bring for coffee hour. All Junior and Senior High students will be responsible for clean-up. Sorry guys!! Maria Leiby has graciously volunteered to oversee all students on Youth Sunday's, thank you Maria!

### October 27<sup>th</sup>

Hallelujah Day!!! We will be celebrating Halloween is a different way, we are calling it "Hallelujah Day." We will have games, treasure hunts for each grade, and going to the corn maize!! We will begin at 12:00 noon to 1:30 p.m., then leaving for the corn maize. We encourage your child to wear their costumes to church on this day. Registration form for the corn maize will be forthcoming.

## UTO every day

By Rose McNab

Grants totaling 2.7 million dollars were awarded by the United Thank Offering (UTO) this year. Grant requests in the amount of \$434,586.50 were received but only \$276.813 was available to give out to the fifteen dioceses in Province Five. Our diocese had two requests: St. Philip's of Kentwood requested \$50,000 for Health Ministry and Barrier Free Expansion, and Emmanuel's of Hastings requested \$14,334 for Building Addition For Handicapped Accessibility. A grant was given to Emmanuel in the amount of \$13,000. The parishes of Western Michigan Diocese gave \$16,000 for the year, so we received back almost the amount that we gave. For the total amount to be granted to the requests, every baptized person in Province Five would give \$1.95, while it amounted to about \$1.03 per person (based on statistics for Province V, according to The Episcopal Church Annual). St. David's gave \$860.45. Wouldn't it be wonderful if everyone would give \$5.00 a year -- every request for funds could be granted!!

The United Thank Offering is a devotional program. The people of the Church are invited to give thanks to God every day of their lives and make a tangible statement of the thanksgiving with an offering. Twice a year, UTO holds an ingathering throughout the Episcopal Church. All pennies, nickels, dollars, and checks are gathered and this provides the funds to give out in grants. Each parish pays for any expense of purchasing supplies; every penny collected is given out in grants.

If you are not already thanking God for the many blessings He so generously gives us, now is a good time to start dropping some coins in your Blue Box or handy receptacle as you give thanks. The UTO Ingathering will be the Sundays of October 13<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>.

Let us give thanks to God! ☩

## Notes from St. David's library

*OKAY OKAY*, I get it. You do not read past the first line.

Three new books:

Women of the Bible - a one-year devotional study...(can be read faster) Includes many you have never thought of - Tamar, Potiphar's Wife, Jochebel, Jael etc. Interesting.

Angels - Billy Graham. Angel's work and interaction in our world. (We don't become angels when we die!)

The Waiting Time - A gentle novel by Christian writer Eugenia Price. Love story, suitable for teens. Civil War & slavery issues.

An old one - So Send I You - by Oswald Chambers, one of my favorite devotional writers. Still good.

Speaking in Tongues - Larry Christianson (1968). Don't hear much about this anymore, and confess I haven't read this one for 25 plus years, but remember it as a decent discussion and sound doctrine.

The Case for Christ - Lee Strobel, journalist for the Chicago Tribune - new(1998) and a strong, reasoned approach to the validity of Christianity. I happen to know a priest in California who is using this book to bring intellectual unbelievers to belief. Reads like a mystery story.

2 Rita Bennett's: I'm Glad You Asked That & How to Pray for Inner Healing for Yourself and Others. These are interesting. She's the wife of priest, Dennis Bennett, who in part started the firestorm with his book Nine O'Clock in the Morning back in the 60's about the Holy Spirit movement. As one who was in California at the time and who knew them, these books are still of value and answers lots of concerns about "Holy Spirit" living, healing issues.

Now, do you like that reviewing better?

***The Phantom Librarian***



## *Vestry Clerk Needed!!*

The St. David's Vestry is in need of someone to fill the position of Clerk of the Vestry. This person would need to attend all vestry meetings and takes the minutes. Copy-ready minutes then need to be delivered to the office no later than two weeks following each Vestry meeting. The office staff will be responsible for copying and putting the minutes in each Vestry members' mailbox. Vestry meetings take place on the third Tuesday of each month beginning at 7:00 p.m. If you feel this is a ministry you would like to take on, please see Fr. David or John Strickler.

St. David's Episcopal Church  
1519 Elmwood Drive  
Lansing, MI 48917

NONPROFIT ORG.  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
LANSING, MI  
PERMIT NO. 625