



St. David's Good News Letter

March 2007

Volume 13, Issue 3

Update from Steph Post

Submitted by Stephanie Post (via E-mail)

Friends and Family-

I feel as if I need to begin this update with a HUGE thank you for covering me in your prayers and support. God truly is listening to you, and has been constantly been covering me with His protection.

This weekend was a long weekend here in the Dominican, since today is Independence Day. Because my friends and I had Monday and Tuesday off of work, we decided to take a long weekend trip to Punta Cana to spend time at the beach. Saturday morning, while we were driving through Santo Domingo (the capital), another driver pulled out about a foot from my car, and we collided. We were in a very dangerous neighborhood and as soon as we got out of the car, about 30 people surrounded the car, many waiting to loot the car. We all immediately began to pray, and give our thanks to God that no one was injured. The car was almost destroyed. My good friend, and coworker, Rafa came immediately with his wife (they are on staff with "Vida Joven" and live in the capital) to help us throughout the day.

A situation that was awful became a best-case scenario. We were unharmed, nothing was stolen, and I was not held in jail because my Spanish was fluent. When giving my testament of the accident to officials, they believed the accident was the man's fault, and I would not have to pay anything. It was a huge blessing since I am a foreigner here and was not likely to be believed.

It was the scariest situation I have been in since moving here, and have little desire to drive to that area again (it was a very hard drive about seven hours from where I

live!)...but I have seen God's faithfulness yet again in the way my friends and I were protected. We felt that after all this mess, we still needed to go on and give ourselves a vacation and were able to rent a car and go onto the beach to relax for two days. I have attached a "before" and "after" picture for you! I am just SO thankful that we are all ok, and that the situation was not worse.

But, other than my crazy weekend here in the Dominican, things with Young Life have been running very well! I am still coaching soccer, and have continued to enjoy spending time with those girls. The weekend of the 17th, we had a soccer tournament in Santo Domingo, and the girls won second place!! I was so proud of them and it was such a blessing to be a part of their excitement. It really brought me closer to the girls.

We continue with weekly Young Life activities and Bible studies, both of which are going great. Tomorrow night we have a club that you can keep in your prayers.

Prayer Requests:

- That I am able to either have my car repaired or find another quickly since it is almost impossible to do my job without a vehicle.
- I am hosting a work team in March for Hope College, which my sister will be leading as well!! (Pray) For a positive and meaningful time with the group.
- We have a Growth camp planned for April 27-29, that God's hands would be in the planning that I will begin working on soon.

A HUGE praise again that my friends and I

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Please note the deadline for the February 2007 newsletter will be March 17, 2007.

sarah.a.taber@gmail.com



Christian Education – March & April upcoming events

Submitted by Debbie Cornell

March 11, 2007—Teacher's Meeting after the 10:30 a.m. service	April 1 and April 8, 2007 – No Sunday school – Spring Break
March 16, 2007—Nursery through 2 nd grades, Family Fun Night, 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.	April 8, 2007—Easter Sunday – Easter Egg Hunt after the 10:30 a.m. service
March 25, 2007—High School Brunch after the 10:30 a.m. service	April 15, 2007—Teacher's Meeting after the 10:30 a.m. service

Memorial Garden Update

Submitted by Gail Donovan

The planning phase for the Memorial Garden renovation is finally complete. The final color rendering by the landscape architect was presented to the congregation at the January 21, 2007 Annual Meeting and is on display in the Great Hall. The Memorial Garden is being expanded to include the entire area between the church and driveway on the south, extending from the front corner of the building to the main entry walkway off the narthex.

The project, in brief, includes removing all the stones and paver-walkway in the courtyard, plant material, and the hedge that surrounds the current garden space. Be assured, the demolition does not disturb the existing burial area. A black aluminum fence, matching the pattern used for the Garth, will surround the Garden perimeter. An evergreen hedge of Korean Boxwood will line the perimeter inside the fence. A curving pathway of bricks like those used in the Garth, but without engraving, will lead into the Garden from the main entryway. A variety of low-maintenance planting materials will provide the Garden with color and year-round interest. Space is included to nestle garden benches in three of the flowerbeds. The existing trees will remain, with up-lights installed at their base for evening illumination. An automatic drip-style irrigation system will ensure the plantings receive proper watering. The project will take approximately six weeks to complete, weather permitting.

The next phase is raising funds for the work to take place. Ideally, construction would begin in late April/early May, but this will depend on how quickly we can raise the necessary funds. You should receive a separate mailing detailing the project cost and fund raising plan in the next few days. Questions may be directed to a member of the Memorial Garden Committee – Gail Donovan, Chairperson, Fr. David, Nancy Burns, Dave Byers, and Sue Kohler.

A little bit of this and that...

March 6th —7:30 p.m.

Diocesan Parishes in Partnership Program

St. David's will host members of the Diocesan Parishes in Partnership program to explain why the Diocese feels we need to move from parishes pledging to the Diocese to a position of parishes being assessed by the Diocese. (Please read the enclosed brochure.) The presentation will be clear, direct and concise. There will be a time for questions and answers. It is important for members of St. David's to attend this meeting so that an informed decision can be directed to our Convention Delegates when they vote on this proposal in April. Please mark your calendars now and plan on attending. See Father David if you have questions.

April 9th—1:00 p.m.

ECW to host Greater Lansing Church Women United

Cheryl Hamrick from the Delta Township Library will share her personal experiences, "Running the Great Wall of China." A signup sheet is available. If you would like to donate baked goodies, they would be greatly appreciated. For further information, please contact Jan Volk, 517-626-6236 or Andi Flitton 517-321-2219.

Pancake Supper Thanks—from Jim Thurston

I wish to thank everyone who participated in the Pancake Supper. Without you and your generosity, the event would never get off the ground. We fed many people and I can truly say no one went away hungry.



February 10, 2007

Amy Mugnolo
c/o St. David's Episcopal Church
1519 Elmwood Road
Lansing, MI 48917

Re: Shopping Extravaganza donation:

Dear Amy:

This past December, the Outreach committee of St. David's received notification that a donation of \$614.47 was graciously provided to the St. David's Outreach program. As I understand it, the donation resulted from a very successful Shopping Extravaganza event sponsored by St. David's.

Thank you for your hard work and generosity to St. David's never-ending mission of providing for the less fortunate within God's family. Your kindness is greatly appreciated.

Joyfully yours,

Jim Thurston

An Outreach Thank You

Submitted by Jim Thurston

The Outreach Committee would like to thank our local food stores for their help in making St. David's Food Basket program a success year after year.

The West Saginaw Road Meijer and Kroger food stores have been two of the key ingredients in our success of providing affordably priced food to our Food Basket families each year. Not only have they provided sale opportunities for quantity food discounts, they have frequently provided the boxes we use in delivering food to

our families.

The buying becomes a yearlong event by a few parishioners, and over the past few years' goodwill relationships have developed with our community businesses. This relationship becomes very beneficial to families, merchants, and St David's alike.

So thank you Meijer and Kroger for the community outreach you do silently each year.

January 14th Coffee Hour—recipe revealed

Submitted by Pearl Brooks & Laura McNeil

Pu Puis (means—finger food in Hawaiian)

Ingredients:

1 pound Jimmy Dean Sausage (hot or medium/medium was used at Coffee Hour)
1 pound grated cheddar cheese
2 cups Bisquick

Directions:

Leave ingredients at room temperature to soften.

Work in two cups Bisquick—shape into 1-inch balls and freeze. Bake 20 minutes at 400 degrees.



Outreach: What is it and where does it go?

Submitted by Jim Thurston

For as long as I can remember St. David's has always been a source of outreach to others. "**The friendly church on the west side of Lansing**", has, by the Grace of God, blossomed into a compassionate work of art committed in serving others; period - end of story. Merriam-Webster's On-Line Search lists a few definitions describing our mission at St. David's.

Outreach:

The act of reaching out

The extending of services or assistance beyond current or usual limits

Every church member participates in our outreach mission in some fashion. Without your effort and support, people in the Lansing and surrounding areas would not be touched by the proverbial, "Hand-of-God". You make it happen, and others ensure it gets done.

Outlined below are a **few** organizations benefiting from your generosity. As we give, they become better prepared in providing a helping hand to the less fortunate. I've also included their Web Site to satisfy your curiosity about the organizations receiving our donations.

Christian Services: For over 25 years Christian Services has been helping Lansing-area churches help people by working with a network of 200+ local churches and organizations. It provides training of volunteers, a clearinghouse to identify needs, screen requests and make referrals, and coordination of many programs to help people in need. St David's receives the names of families for the food baskets we provide at Easter, Thanksgiving and Christmas.

Visit their Web Site at: **www.christianservicesloveinc.org**

Hannah's House: Hannah's House provides ministry to pregnant and parenting moms at risk in the Lansing area. They provide shelter, food, care, and training to moms and moms-to-be. In addition to our financial contribution to Hannah's House, St. David's also provides the equivalent of five food baskets to them at Easter, Thanksgiving and Christmas. Visit their Web Site at: **www.cacvoices.org**

Advent House Ministries: This local ministry provides various forms of help to men, women and children in need. They operate a weekend day shelter program, provide over 30,000 meals a year, provide job and life-skill training to adults and help homeless families find permanent housing.

Visit their Web Site at: **www.adventhouse.com**

Child Evangelism Fellowship: This organization has been active in Lansing for many years. Its purpose is to present the Gospel to children in a loving way that helps draw young people closer to Christ. CEF develops programs, trains volunteers and coordinates presentations throughout the Lansing area.

Visit their Web Site at: **www.cefmi.com**

Cristo Rey: They provide many services including health care primarily to our Spanish population of Lansing and other areas.

Visit their Web Site at: **www.cristo-rey.org**

Ballentine Stepping Stones: They provide transitional housing that leads the way from homelessness to independent living.

Visit their Web Site at: **www.css-svh.org**

Story continues on



Outreach: What is it and where does it go? (continued from page 4)

Special Olympics: The mission of the organization is to provide sports training and athletic competition in a variety of Olympic-type sports for the children and adults with intellectual disabilities who live in our state. Athletes are given continuing opportunities to develop physical fitness; demonstrate courage; experience joy; and participate in a sharing of gifts, skills, and friendship with their families, other Special Olympics athletes, and the community.

Visit their Web Site at: www.somi.org/info/infoindex.php

Canterbury MSU: Canterbury MSU is a ministry of the Diocese of Michigan. This Chaplaincy has for several decades served the students, faculty and staff of Michigan State University. We meet at All Saints' Episcopal Church at 800 Abbott Road in East Lansing. Our space is open daily for students to gather for meals, study and conversation. Programs are scheduled throughout the term, facilitated by the chaplain and students. Social functions and retreats are also planned.

Visit their Web Site at: www.emmsu.org

Lansing Episcopal Area projects: This program is new to St. David's and is considered a transitory program for foster care individuals who are old enough to be on their own. Through Social Services, the individual is provided an apartment, minimal furniture, household items, and life skills training designed for their transition from foster care to every day life. **No Web Site is available for review.**

I hope I've provided insight to outreach and how St. David's approaches this mandate by Christ to help the less fortunate.

Finally, at our most recent Outreach meeting we approved additional funding to the charities listed above totaling an extra \$2,800. We also agreed to assist five more families with food baskets during the year **and** provide five families with monthly gift cards to assist in stretching their month-end food budget. A new committee member presented this creative gift card idea. Praise God for this fresh approach in trying to have the cash last as long as the month.

If you have additional questions about outreach please feel free to contact any one of the committee members: Sue Kohler, Sharon Phipps, Nancy Howard, Mary and Ben Stine, Jerry Williams, Glennis and Bob Muncie, Pat Vine, or Jim Thurston. We would be glad to answer your questions.

God Bless and stay warm.

January 28, 2007

I just wanted to thank you for your generosity to my family. We received Thanksgiving and Christmas baskets from your church.

Victoria loves her new boots, hat and mittens. Sabria also enjoyed her gifts. We loved the family gift with the movie and popcorn. That was a wonderful treat during the Winter Break from school.

I just want you to know that I hope and pray that you will be able to continue this God sent mission that your church has. Your members that feel the spirit of giving surely sent from God.

I pray that your church and the members will be blessed for blessing us.

Carla, Sabria & Victoria



ECW updates—mark your calendars

Submitted by Andi Flitton & Jan Volk

A lot of fun was had at our Tea Party in January, if you missed it, try to plan to attend the Garden Party that we will have hopefully in May on a lovely Sunday afternoon! Be sure to check out the pictures taken by Pearl Brooks, and see all of us in our lovely hats. We had tasty snacks—even cucumber sandwiches (if you are going to an official English Tea, you must have cucumber sandwiches!)

In February, we had our annual Secret Pal Potluck and gift exchange, where you find out who had been your secret pal for the past year, and draw a name for a new one. This year was a great time, everyone that was in attendance received something from their secret pal—I received a gift certificate from Barnes & Nobles and a heavy-duty book-mark, which I will be using this week—thank you Rosemary Tait!). It as fun to see who had our names last year, and to be able to thank them for the great gifts!

The next big event is the annual Garage Sale! It is always a hectic week, but there is such a great community feeling with all of the help and the best part is that we get a chance to know people from both services! For the past two years, Carey Draeger has prepared our lunch, and that way we were able to sit down together and chat, and give our feet and backs a break!! Please be saving your clean garage sale items, check with Jan, Father David or myself before you bring in anything, since we have no place to store it! We will toss items that are brought in that are not clean and serviceable, so pleas save us time and money by tossing them at home.

Another event that we are trying to set up is a once-a-month Tuesday afternoon or evening Movie Night for the ladies. NCG Cinemas has all movies on Tuesdays for just \$5.00, unless otherwise noted in the paper.

We are also hoping to have a scrapbooking time at Pages in Time soon. Please let us know if you are interested in joining us.

Your sisters in Christ,
Andi Flitton & Jan Volk

Readings for upcoming lessons during Lent

Submitted by Father David

- March 4-10: Exodus, Chapters 7-12
- March 11-17: Exodus, Chapters 13-20
- March 18-24: Exodus, Chapter 24/ Exodus, Chapters 32-34/ Numbers, Chapters 10-13
- March 25-31: Numbers, Chapter 14/ Numbers, Chapter 21/ Deuteronomy, Chapters 29-34
- Readings for Passover: Exodus, Chapters 1-15

Readings for Holy Week: April 1-7

- Palm Sunday: Luke, Chapter 19
- Monday of Holy Week: Luke, Chapter 20
- Tuesday of Holy Week: Luke, Chapter 21
- Wednesday of Holy Week: Mark, Chapter 13
- Maundy Thursday: Matthew, Chapter 26
- Good Friday: John, Chapters 18-19



Important Contact Information

Saint David's:

Fr. David R. Pike, Rector Box 103
Dr. Timothy Flynn, Music Director Box 147

Good News Letter:

Sarah Taber Box 162
sarah.a.taber@gmail.com

Vestry:

Gail Donovan, Senior Warden Box 17
John Runcie, Junior Warden Box 50
David Byers, Treasurer Box 15
Craig Leinbach, Asst. Treasurer Box 27
Francis Jacobs, Verger Box 4
Carolyn Jacobs, Clerk Box 4
Adam Williams Box 143
Vicki Tisdale Box 102
Dave Sonnenberg Box 138
Barb VanDyke Box 73
Jeff Spitzley Box 52
Nancy Howard Box 59
Carol Abbott Box 126
Dick Otto Box 82

Service & Schedule:

Sunday: 8:00 a.m., 10:30 a.m.
Wednesday: 6:30 p.m.
Friday: 9:00 a.m.

Saint David's Episcopal Church
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E-mail: frdavid.stdavids@sbcglobal.net
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Web: www.stdavidslansing.org

Office Staff:

Anniversaries:

6th—Mr. & Mrs. Ed Vandermoere
16th—Mr. & Mrs. William Paff
18th—Mr. & Mrs. Harry Grant
20th—Mr. & Mrs. John Strickler
23rd—Mr. & Mrs. Robert Muncie
25th—Mr. & Mrs. Richard Otto

12th—Susan Lipka
15th—Daniel Ostrom
16th—Don Volk
16th—Jon Williams
18th—Russell Vine
19th—Trevor Spitzley
19th—Jenifer Zawadzinski
20th—Glennis Muncie
23rd—Karen Oleson
25th—Larry Ewing
25th—Justin Jagger
27th—Seth Jones
29th—Sarah Harris
30th—Erik Ristow
30th—Nicole Spitzley
30th—Cash Spitzley

Birthdays:

1st—Robert Muncie
1st—Victoria Spitzley
3rd—Ruby Klanecky
5th—Jay Bastian
5th—Dawn Zawadzinski
7th—Hunter Jones
7th—Kailyn Kressler
11th—Jane Stephens
12th—Carol Abbott



Reminder: If you are submitting something for an upcoming issue of the Good News Letter—please be sure to E-mail me the item (if possible) to sarah.a.taber@gmail.com by the deadline date for that issue. The deadline date for the next issue can be found on the front cover of each Good News Letter.

If you cannot E-mail me the item, please place it in my mailbox (#162).

Thank you! Sarah Taber

St. David's Episcopal Church
1519 Elmwood Road
Lansing, Michigan 48917

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Kids Hope USA—*one church, one school, one child, one hour a week*

Submitted by Pat Purol

Wa Hoo! On Sunday, February 11th, thirty-one (31) volunteers from St. David's were commissioned to assist with the Kids Hope USA outreach to Elmwood School as mentors, prayer partners or special events volunteers. What a generous outpouring of love and time for the children at Elmwood! Expecting maybe 2 or 3 mentors, the school staff was 'wowed' by our response.

While preparing for this new ministry, the principle, Valerie, met with the selected children who could benefit from having a "special mentor." As they sat in a circle on the floor asking questions, one of the students raised her hand and asked in delighted disbelief, "You mean they are coming here to our school for just us?" The principal smiled and replied, "Only you will each have a special volunteer to help you." Wows followed.

Students have been matched to our volunteers and will

begin to meet each other the week of February 18th, the week after Valentine's Day. Prayer partners will get mentor/student information the same week. There aren't enough words to express the gratitude that is already being felt. St. David's is truly blessed and a blessing to each other and others. Thank you!

Side Note:

As Father David was explaining to 4-year old Abbey how he would put water on her forehead when she was baptized, he added that then he would draw a little cross on her forehead with oil. Abbey paused, looked at Father David, and asked "Could you please draw a mermaid instead?"

(Kids say the cutest things, don't they?)