



Holy Week

Submitted by Rev. David Pike

The musical *Rent* by Jonathan Larson has a wonderful song entitled *Seasons of Love*. In the song, the question is asked,

Five hundred twenty-five thousand
Six hundred minutes
How do you measure – measure a year?

In daylight – sunsets
In midnights – in cups of coffee
In inches – in miles
In laughter – in strife

The same question can be asked of the life of Jesus. Just how do you measure what he did? Is it only to be found in his resurrection? Is it through his healings? How about what he taught? Perhaps the answer can be found in the relationships he built or the legacy he left behind?

In truth, the answer can be found throughout the Bible. The Bible is, after all, the story of God's love and His relationship with humanity; Jesus is the culmination of that love. **Holy Week** gives us a full understanding of the life and love of Jesus: Ten thousand four hundred and forty minutes.

It begins with **Palm Sunday**. Here we see that Jesus was so loved by his followers that they were willing at his command to proclaim him king. So fired up were they that I suspect they would have even taken on Rome herself to do so. Hear them cry Hosanna and know the excitement and depth of their love.

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, were days spent in quiet intimacy listening closely as Jesus continued to teach of the love of God. These were ordinary days of deepening relationship. These were the days when one experience after another was added to the foundation of the relationship between Jesus and his disciples.

Maunder Thursday the disciples experienced a level of intimacy that would be recorded for all time. Jesus gathered his closest and most trusted friends and companions and celebrated the Passover meal with them. Without a doubt, this was something done every year since they became a community, only this time

Jesus took it a huge step further. The meal became more than honoring an event past, the passing over of the angel of death in the land of Egypt. This time the meal became an action of the future. It would serve as a prelude to the depth of God's love.

After the meal there was time spent in prayer. Jesus knew he needed strength that could only come from time spent with his Father. He asked so little of his followers, only to pray with him. Sadly, they would fail him by again and again falling asleep.

It was in the midst of this time of prayer that the betrayal of Jesus took place at the hand of Judas. It was an action so simple – a seemingly loving kiss from one once close to Jesus. The mockery of a trial and the total failure of justice quickly followed. People lied, spit on Jesus, mock him and in the end fled as he died painfully on the cross on **Good Friday**. On **Holy Saturday** his body rested in a borrowed tomb guarded by Roman soldiers.

Why did Jesus endure this? In a word, because of LOVE. So great was God's love that He gave His only Son so that all who believed in him should not perish but have eternal life. John 3:16. Jesus lived out that love for each and every one of us.

Ten thousand four hundred and forty minutes in the life of a man changed forever the history of the world. This Holy Week, think about these minutes. They changed for all eternity your life. What can you do with your minutes to change the life of someone you know?

May God bless you in ways you never imagined.

With deepest affection,

Fr. David

Entering the Rest of God

A Healing Conference featuring the Rev. Jack Sheffield & Anna Marie Sheffield of Deep River Ministries, San Antonio, Texas.

Friday evening, Mar. 7 and Saturday Mar. 8, 2008.

Are you registered yet? It's free, but the Order of St. Luke needs to know you're coming and serve you lunch !

Contact: Jerry Williams or John Post – ASAP Mar. 1 deadline

Easter Food Baskets

Submitted by Jerry Williams

The Outreach Committee will again be distributing Easter Food Baskets to 55 families. On average we spend about \$80-85 for each family and provide enough food for a week.

There are three ways you can help:

2. Donations—Please use the Food Basket envelopes in your Sunday Bulletin for your donation. If you write a check, please write "Food Baskets" in the memo line.
3. Set-up—We will be getting everything (tables, food, boxes, labels, etc.) ready on Thursday, March 13 from 1-4pm and Friday, March 14 from 9am-3pm in the Great Hall. If you have an hour or two and would like to see what goes on "behind the scenes", your help would be most welcome.
4. Packing and Distributing Food Baskets—Packing and distributing will occur on **Saturday, March 15, from 9:00am-2:00pm in the Great Hall.** All are welcome for whatever time you can give. We need people to pack and deliver food baskets.

If you have any questions, please contact Jerry Williams. Thank you, in advance, for giving generously of your time and money so that we can extend God's love to these families.

March Happenings to note:

- 1- Great Hall in use –evening
- 2- Baby Shower for Rose Downs -2pm
- 5- Lenten Soup Supper after 6pm service
-Lenten program 7:15pm
- 6- MOPS 9am
- 7- Stations 7pm
-**Healing Conference** -evening
- 8- **Healing Conference** all day
- 9- **DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME –Spring forward**
-Rev. Jack Scheffield preaching
- 13- Senior World, 11:15am
-Easter Food Basket prep begins
- 14- Stations of the Cross, 7pm
- 15- Easter Basket distribution
- 16- **PALM SUNDAY**
-E. Deanery Ultreya at St. David's, 3:30pm
- 17- **NEWSLETTER DEADLINE**
- 19- Vestry Mtg. 7:30pm
- 20- MOPS 9am
-**Maunder Thursday**-Seder Supper 6pm
-Vigil of Repose begins 9pm
- 21- **Good Friday**, Eucharist- Noon
-Stations of the Cross 7pm
- 22- **Easter Eve** service 7pm
- 23- **EASTER SUNDAY**
- 28/29- Great Hall in use –evening/afternoon
- 30- **Eastern Deanery Confirmation**

Be sure to check your St. David's directory for monthly birthdays and anniversaries.



“Surely he hath
borne our grief
and **carried our**
sorrows.”

Isaiah 53:4

Curate's Corner

Reworking a question I asked a group recently, I might ask today:

To fast or not to fast, that is the question!

Our understanding of Lent as a time of fasting, of discipline, of penitence is so convoluted both with our inherent refusal to do anything like that and with our constant need to fix ourselves. I don't resolve to exercise every day in Lent anymore than I do for New Year's, since I resolve to do that monthly throughout the year. I exercise six times a week for the first two, drop off and by the end of the month, I'm lucky if I get off of the couch twice. Then I resolve to do it again.

Or I try to cut something out. This year, I planned to stop drinking Diet Coke—a crazy idea, I know!—but I planned to do it. Ash Wednesday came around, I knew I had to be up early, so I didn't bother making a pot of coffee (yes, trade one vice for another!). I ended up driving up to Speedway and getting a 44 oz Diet Coke after the 7:00 service. I celebrated the other day because I made it through the day on one pot of coffee and a bunch of water—a rare feat for me!

But I'm not sure why we torture ourselves in Lent like this. Maybe we draw inspiration from that story from the first Sunday in Lent: Jesus' temptation in the desert. It is commonly held that for a First Century Judean, a trip into the desert for a protracted period of time was seen as an appropriate opportunity to both cleanse the body and soul of that plaque that builds up as we live our lives and as a time of intense, personal, spiritual reflection. It is just you, the sand, and the wind. For Jesus, the trip into the desert was just such a trip; his temptations notwithstanding.

Instead of fasting, discipline, or penitence, I prefer the word quarantine: inspired by the title of a novel of the same name by Jim Crace. It is an exploration of a pilgrimage into the desert with several people who are on a similar spiritual pilgrimage as Jesus; they come across this strange figure in the desert that we infer to be Jesus. I read the book several years ago and still feel like I need to pick sand out of my teeth.

Ever since, I have seen Lent as that same opportunity for quarantine. It is less about the fasting as it is the ever present spiritual journey. Perhaps one should tie a string around a finger and pray every time it is noticed. Perhaps it is a time of deep theological reflection in which we sit and think and then put our thoughts onto paper. Perhaps it is a time to explore new forms of prayer.

I hope that my Lenten program on the last week of

Jesus's life may provide some material for that reflection. If you have missed the first couple of weeks, I would be happy to give you handouts and catch you up to speed. If you are unable to attend any, then we can certainly make some alternate arrangements. Otherwise, I encourage you to join us for the first two Wednesday nights in March.

Shalom,
The Rev. Drew Downs

Joshua the Church Mouse

Carol Abbott has become the representative from St. David's to the Diocesan Millennium Development Goals project. If you have any questions regarding MDG's and the request that every family, every parish, every diocese give 7 tenths of one percent of their monthly income to be used to accomplish the goals of the Millennium Development Project as approved by countries and religious groups worldwide talk to **Carol, Fr. David, or Deacon Drew**. **Marj Allemeier** is home from visiting family in the warm south. **Steve Bolin** is recovering from a bout with the flu. **Jim and Mary Jane Buzzie** are home from a vacation in warm Mexico. **Dave and Janie Byers** have been enjoying having the grandchildren visiting them. **Anne Cannell** is recovering from a nasty fall and broken thumb. **John and Sarah Chapman** took a short vacation up north with friends but are home now. **Ken Cole** continues to improve at the VA Center in Grand Rapids. I heard that he is even doing a little sketching again. **Carey Draeger** is once again cooking on a tall ship in Virginia or North Carolina. She will be back briefly before going up to Traverse City to do the same. **Ginnie Dubanc** has been shut in and prayer and perhaps a card would be appreciated. Fr. David heard from **Larry and Wink Ewing** and they are enjoying their time in the south. **Dr. Tim Flynn** is recovering from his nasty bout with the flu. **Elida Gamboa's** son in Texas lost his home to a fire. Keep him and his family in your prayers. The **Hammonds** have checked in and Fr. David had a nice long chat with **Dick** on the phone. They are enjoying being in Florida and report that **Harold Payne** is doing well. **Frank and Nancy Howard** are home from a visit to Florida to get away from the winter weather. **Jon Jackinchuk and Sarah Kolb** had a nice engagement photo and article in the Lansing State Journal. It is posted on the bulletin board by the coat racks. **Jim Kent** continues to be very busy with family and appreciates everyone keeping him in their prayers. **Chip Kiebler** continues to recover from his latest surgery and is thankful for everyone's prayers. **Helen Lee** has fought a nasty bout with the flu and is thankful she is recovering. **Dee Lindstrom** was taken to Sparrow ER because she was so sick with the flu but is home recovering. Keep **Gary Mugnolo** in your prayers as he still *(continued on next page)*

has pain in his leg which makes working on ladders hard for him. **Glennis Muncie** is getting around better each day. **Bob and Glennis** will be celebrating their **60th wedding anniversary** on Easter. They will be in Granger, Indiana March 22 celebrating with their 5 children their spouses and 12 grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren. **Bob and Edie Nordlund** took a little vacation and drove up to the Upper Peninsula and brought home beautiful photographs. **Dick Otto** had a nasty round of the flu but aside from his cough is doing much better. **Bobby and Kristin Pfauth** are home from a trip to Florida. **Mary Post** was in town to visit her dad and ended up in Sparrow with abdominal pain. Thankfully the doctors found nothing, medicine took care of the pain and she was able to return home safely. **Patricia Puroil** is getting better and the doctors are helping with her pain and range of motion. **Bonnie Ryan** fell and broke her arm and messed up her elbow. She had surgery and is recovering nicely. **David and Dawn Sonnenburg** are home from a trip to the mid Atlantic coast. A careless driver hit **Ben and Mary Stine** from behind, did a little damage to their car but thankfully other than a little stiffness **Ben and Mary** are fine. **Andi Flitton** was hit as well and likewise if still a bit stiff and the car is being repaired. **Lore Tuttle** continues to recover from her hand surgery. **Art and Barbara Van Dyke** are grandparents again and will happily show photographs when asked. It has been so cold the church never warms up. My family and I have taken to living in the kitchen pantry behind the little freezer next to the hot water heater. I will be so glad when spring arrives!! Be careful on the snow and ice.

-Joshua

ECW News-March 2008

Submitted by Andi Flitton

Some happy notes to pass along!

Many of you know that we have had the **couches** in the Great Hall for many years (30+), and they have been in sad need of recovering. That has been a goal for us for several years. Soon, soon. Hopefully by Easter, they will be looking their best in their new clothes. Father David has been working with someone who will take care of **re-upholstering** them in fabric that will hold up to the wear and tear and the abuse to which they are subjected.

Our **scrapbooking** day was a fun event, not many were able to attend, but those of us that were there, were able to accomplish quite a bit, and enjoyed each others company. We will schedule another one hopefully in the late spring. It is simply a day to bring your supplies and get together with others that want to scrap-we have a lot of room to spread out.

Secret Pals from 2007 have been revealed. We all enjoy getting to know who has been giving us the great gifts we see in the mailroom. The potluck was fun and as always there was a lot of tasty food. Be sure to keep in mind your new secret pal. Remember that you don't need to spend a lot of money to be a good secret pal, just keep them in your prayers, and a small inexpensive gift or card on occasion. Suggestions for gifts go from plants-most of us love to get flowers, candy, candles, gift cards, donations to a charity, to volunteering you your secret pal's name. There are several places around town to get fun gifts. They can be silly, last year, Jan received headbands with hearts, or shamrocks and bunny ears-she loved them!!!!!!!

Please keep in mind the upcoming **Garage Sale (May 9-10)**. In the past years we have had Sunday evening through Wednesday evening to prepare, this year, however, there is an election the week of the sale. So for those of you who have complained about not being able to work because of your job-we will have a place for you on Wednesday and Thursday evenings the week of the sale, and we will be open Friday and Saturday, so you can help on Saturday, too. A reminder that we don't want your junk!!! If your pans that have a Teflon coating are peeling, throw them away, we cannot sell something like that because it isn't healthy. If you have something that is missing pieces, we cannot use it either. We are looking for gently used furniture, and toys. Children's clothing is something that people are always trying to find. No textbooks, please, they don't sell. Jewelry is always welcome.

In April, during one of the coffee hours, we will have a speaker from **The Women's Center of Greater Lansing**. She will be here to tell us what the center does, and how we can help. We will be taking donations on that day, both monetary and in supplies. For information about their needs, you can check out their website: wwwcacvoices.org/womenscenter.

Questions and comments to Jan Volk and Andi Flitton

If you missed the **Annual Meeting** you may not know your **new Vestry members**. *Congratulations* to: Dave Byers, Victoria Spitzley, Karen Burt, Mary Stine, and Sharon Phipps.

Convention Delegates for this year are: Gail Donovan, Carolyn Jacobs, and John Post.

Alternates are: Carol Abbott, Francis Jacobs, and Jeff Spitzley.

Youth Corner

Nightwatch: Sr. High on **March 29th -30th**.

The Sr. High Nightwatch is looking to be in Chicago this year.

Don't forget that there will not be Sunday school on Easter, but we are planning on an **Easter Egg Hunt** after the service in the classrooms.



Christian Education

As a reminder, we are still in the midst of the **Lenten Programming**. Feel free to join us on **Wednesday nights**. We begin with Holy Eucharist at 6:00, then do a potluck, and then break out into our different programs. This year Fr. David is leading an exploration of the **Millenium Development Goals**, a program begun by the United Nations and ratified by its member countries to eliminate extreme poverty by 2015. Drew is leading **an exploration of Jesus' last week** among us as outlined in the gospel according to Mark. Newcomers are welcome and encouraged.

Books are in for the biweekly book study, resuming on Monday, March 31. The book we are reading is *Adventures in Missing the Point* by Brian McLaren and Tony Campolo (ISBN-13 9780310267133). We meet in the chapel and wrap our discussion of the book in Evening Prayer. Please read the first two chapters and be prepared to discuss. For more information, please see Drew.

Outreach Help needed

Submitted by Barbara Burns-Briggs

The Annual Fruit and Greens Sale, coordinated by Lansing area Episcopal Churches, provides funds for Haven House and Loaves and Fishes to give homeless individuals and family's security deposits and first month's rent. St. David's participated generously in past years buying wreaths, poinsettias and citrus. We're looking for someone to *distribute and collect order forms for St. David's next fall*. Please contact Barb-Burns-Briggs at 646-9336 or bbriggs@hpsk12.net.

Meijer Community Rewards

Submitted by Mary Stine

Meijer Community Rewards program is an easy way to help the Outreach Committee of St. David's. All you need to do is pick up a brochure from the table in the Narthex and either fill it out and send it in, or you can go to www.meijer.com and link to the community rewards program and sign up that way. St. David's code number is: 589922.

The way it works is this: Scan the card whenever you purchase anything at Meijer. It is that easy.

The benefits are this:

1. When you pay with cash or a debit card with pin #, 1/2 % of the purchase will be donated to St. David's Outreach Fund.
2. When you use a Meijer credit card to pay for your purchase, 1 % will be donated to St. David's Outreach Fund.

It may not sound like a lot, but if everyone used this each time they shopped at Meijer it would add up and be helpful in our outreach ministries. For example, if 100 families spent \$100 a month and paid with cash or their debit card, the donation from Meijer would be \$50.00. So you see, how if we all work together with this program, we can make a difference in the lives of those less fortunate.

On behalf of the Outreach Committee,
Thank you for your consideration in this project.

~Mary Stine

Pancake Supper report

Submitted by Robert Muncie

The supper is sponsored by St. David's Watermen group. It's success depends on the great volunteer help from so many of you. We had 30 known active volunteers and probably some others who were gracious to help out. We Served approximately 135 persons. This took 45 pounds of pancake mix, over 500 sausages, 6 large cans of applesauce, 2 gallons of syrup, 2 gallons of milk, 2 gallons of apple juice and 2 cans of coffee. All went well a huge thanks to the willing workers and to those of you who purchased tickets and came to enjoy the meal and socializing with your friends. The net take after expenses was \$345.20. This goes to the Watermen's fund to be used for outreach, primarily within the parish.

A message from the Red Cross

As a member of St. David's Episcopal Church, you have a close connection with the Lansing community as well. The American Red Cross, Great Lakes Region provides the surrounding communities with blood donated by volunteers. Our Lansing Donor Center is conveniently located to provide a venue for volunteers to donate whole blood, platelets, and plasma. All three of these blood items are vitally important in saving lives around our community.

While whole blood donors are able to donate at multiple locations, including mobile blood drives, platelet donors must donate at the Lansing Donor Center. Platelet donors require a special process called Apheresis to remove the platelets from the whole blood. Due to not being able to offer mobile units to collect platelets, I am asking for your assistance in spreading the word about the need for platelet donors.

I would like the opportunity to speak at a monthly meeting (or at anytime your members are available) to explain the Apheresis process and the benefits of these donations. I would be able to speak to your members at anytime available to you and I will only take up about 20-30 minutes. I encourage anyone interested in Apheresis donations or anyone who has donated whole blood to attend this meeting as well. If this is possible, feel free to email me or call me at the number listed below. If a meeting is not possible, I would be happy to send you some information to hand out to your church members. I appreciate your time and consideration!

Thank you,
Sara Spoelman,
Apheresis Representative
American Red Cross
Great Lakes Blood Services Region

Ph: (517)318-7292
Cell: (517)230-2310
SpoelmanSN@usa.redcross.org

Directory Updates:

Carey Draeger
1716 Herbert St.
Lansing, 48910

Jim & Pat Thurston
email address:
jthurston1246@msn.com

Current Lost & Found Inventory

These items can be found in the mailroom in the drawer unit marked "lost & found"; please claim before they are tossed.

- 1 Bible w/ name embossed =Ann E. Keller
- Data Bank (PDA)-(battery very low)
- 1 Left glove –knit w/ leather palm
- 1 pair gray stretch gloves
- Lavender Bunny
- Green glasses case w/ silver rimmed (reading?) glasses inside
- 1 bib w/ "I love daddy"
- A round denim childs purse w/ small Barbie inside and paper shapes
- Small wind-up dinosaur
- Black corded necklace w/ mystery emblem
- Square Silver watch w/ chain-like band (found in kitchen)

If any of these items sound familiar please claim them in the mailroom.

Don't forget! Sunday, March 9, 2008



Important Contact Information

Rev. David R. Pike, Rector frdavid.stdavids@sbcglobal.net	box 103
Rev. Drew Downs, Deacon dndrew.stdavids@sbcglobal.net	box 78
Rev. Bill Ericson, Pastoral Assistant	box 40
Dr. Timothy Flynn, Music Director	box 147
Edie Nordlund, Admin. Assistant office.stdavids@sbcglobal.net	box 35
Kerry Chapin, M.of M. (sexton)	box 111

If you have news to report about someone in the military or nonmilitary working within the war, please submit it to the editor before the deadline date each month.



Lent Service Schedule:

Sunday: 8am, 10:30am (with choir)

Wednesday: 6 pm, 6:30p Potluck, 7:15p Lenten Program
(watch bulletin for any changes)

Friday: 9am, 7pm Stations of The Cross

Maundy Thursday: Seder Sup. 6pm, Stripping of the Altar, Vigil of Repose begins 9pm

Good Friday service at Noon

Easter Vigil/Holy Saturday service 7pm

GOT NEWS?

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

for April Edition Box 111

is March 17. *Email: st.ds.news@gmail.com



VESTRY CONTACTS:

Gail Donovan , Senior Warden	box 17
Sue Kohler, Jr. , Warden/Renew.&Evang.	box 75
David Byers , Stewardship/Treasurer	box 15
Craig Leinbach , Asst. Treasurer	box 27
David Sonnenberg , Lay Ministry	box 138
Tim Cote , New Persons Ministry	box 90
Patrick Lynaugh , Worship	box 1
Victoria Spitzley , Youth	box 52
Barb VanDyke , Communications	box 73
Adam Williams , Building & Grounds	box 143
Karen Burt , Christian Education	box 95
Sharon Phipps , Outreach	box 56
Mary Stine , Fellowship	box 170
Carolyn Jacobs , Vestry Clerk	box 4

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Other informational addresses:

Episcopal Church online- episcopalchurch.org

The Living Church- livingchurch.org

Diocese of West Michigan- edwm.org

Western Michigan Episcopal Cursillo- wmec.net