



ST. DAVID'S

GOOD NEWS LETTER

November 2005

Volume 11, Issue 11

All Hallows Eve versus Halloween...

Submitted by Father David

Throughout the ages, writers have presented Death in a variety of ways. We have stories of the "grim reaper" complete with hood and scythe. Edgar Allan Poe wrote of Death in his short story "The Masque of the Red Death." Stephen King writes of Death in many of his novels. These are the common pictures many people hold of Death.

Peter S. Beagle writes of Death from a totally different point of view in his short story, "Come, Lady Death." This short story begins with Lady Flora Neville bored with her life and her parties. She says, "Therefore, to my next ball I shall invite the one guest I am sure no one, not even myself, could possibly find boring. My friends, the guest of honor at my next party shall be Death himself!"

Imagine everyone's surprise when, two weeks later at the planned ball, Death arrives looking like a nineteen year old woman with long yellow hair, wide forehead, high cheekbones, narrow chin, beautifully clear skin and dark, deep set eyes. As the party progresses, each of the guests encounters Death and in doing so discovers something about themselves. Here we are asked to view Death in a different unexpected way.

For many people, the month of November comes across as a time of death. It begins on the final day of October with Halloween. What was once "All Hallows Eve" has become "Halloween," a time for Trick or Treating, costume parties, and far too often, blood and gore. The days grow shorter and colder and as the temperatures drop trees everywhere begin losing their leaves.

Somewhere, lost in the dark past, is the tie between "All Hallows Eve," All Saints Day and All Souls Day. Society celebrates Halloween with its focus on death and darkness. Some churches remember and celebrate All Saints Day and unfortunately even fewer churches remember All Soul's Day. We aim towards Thanksgiving and Christmas and in no time the New Year is upon us.

What we have forgotten is that for Christians this is not a season of darkness and death. It is a season of the Saints. With All Hallows Eve we prepare for All Saints Day, not unlike Christmas Eve as a time of preparation for Christmas Day. It is a time to honor all the Saints who stand before God and praise Him night and day. On All Souls Day we remember the faithful departed of our generation who have been the lights of this world and now reside on that far distant shore in a far greater light.

While it is true the days are shorter and darker and it seems that all around us nature is dying, we must remember that for Christians our faith is in Jesus Christ, the Lord of Eternal Life. In Christ there is no death, only life everlasting. In baptism we are granted eternal life. This Halloween, spend some time thinking about the saints. When it is gray and dark outside, look around you and see the light of Christ in your brothers and sisters.

May God always richly bless and keep you.

With deepest affection,

Father David

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Do you have a suggestion for a future Good News Letter article—email Sarah Taber at sarah.a.taber@gmail.com



## Living Words conference to be held at St. David's in November 2005

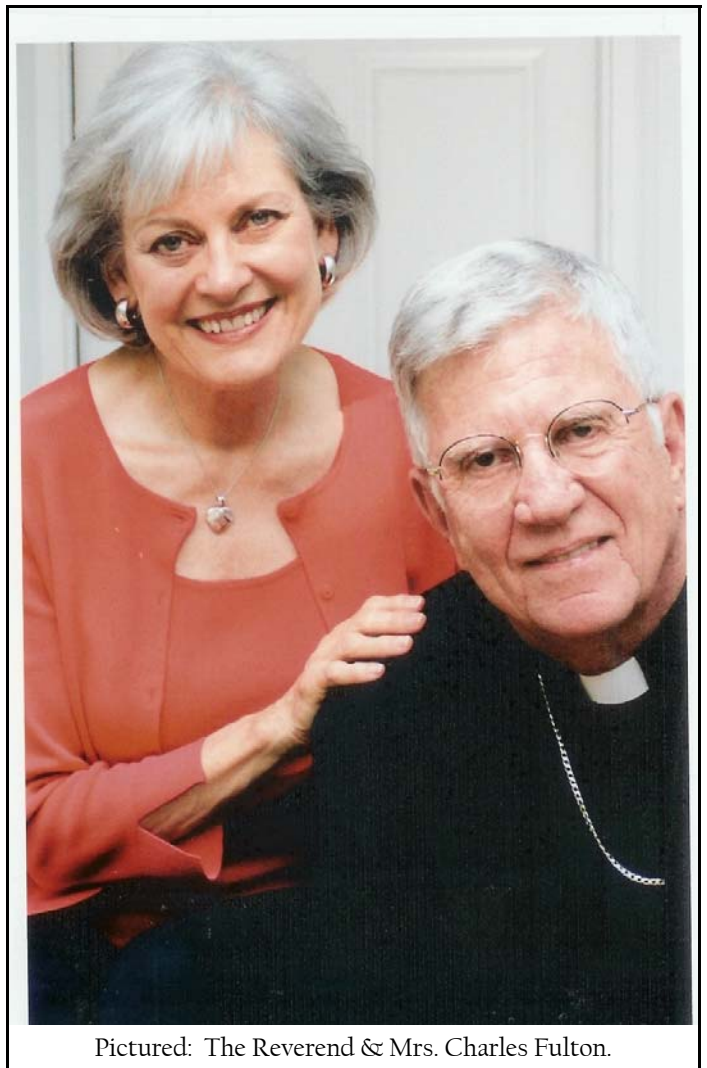
*Submitted by John Post*

During the first weekend of November, the Reverend and Mrs. Charles Fulton of Marietta, Georgia, will be at St. David's to conduct a conference called "Living Words." According to Father Fulton, during this conference the word of God, worship, and personal spiritual growth will flow together to make not only an enjoyable experience, but also an opportunity for participants to further mature together, as the Body of Christ.

Father Fulton is the retired CEO of ACTS 29, a position he took after 30 years of successful parochial ministry, and his wife, Judy Fulton, is a noted composer, worship leader, and teacher. The Reverend Frank Baltz, rector of St. Jude's Church in Marietta, says of Father Fulton, "He is a gifted leader and administrator, and outstanding preacher, teacher and conference speaker. He is a communicator who has the ability to connect with all sorts of people in large and small groups." Father Baltz also says of Judy Fulton, "There is no better worship leader anywhere than Judy Fulton. She leads with confidence that is infectious."

The conference, which is being brought to St. David's by the Renewal and Evangelism Committee, will run from 7:00 p.m.—9:00 p.m. on Friday November 4th and from 9:30 a.m.—3:00 p.m. on Saturday, November 5th. Father Fulton will be preaching at both services at St. David's on Sunday. The cost of attending the conference is \$10.00 per person. This fee will help cover costs incurred beyond the amount the Vestry has budgeted for the conference, and will also include the cost of a box lunch for each participant on Saturday.

The Renewal and Evangelism Committee strongly urge all members of St. David's and their friends to attend the "Living Words" conference in order to



Pictured: The Reverend & Mrs. Charles Fulton.

continue their spiritual growth and development. A conference very similar to this was very well received when it was presented by the Fultons several years ago at Emmanuel Church in Petoskey.

For more information and for reservations, contact John Post at (517) 323-1825 or at [jap6630@aol.com](mailto:jap6630@aol.com).

Thank you.

### Outreach committee seeks your help for those less fortunate

The Outreach committee will be putting together food baskets again this year to benefit those who otherwise may not have anything to eat for Thanksgiving and Christmas. Please set aside November 19th and December 17th to help out. Please see Pat Vine for more information. Thank you.



## Have a day, call a parishioner and together we can make a difference

*Taken from Sunday bulletin*

From time to time, the church office receives a call from a parishioner asking if someone could please pick up a prescription, go to the post office, or take someone to the doctor's office. The church staff is asking for 10 to 12 volunteers to 'have a day' when they would be available to do such things. This would be an occasional event but very helpful to our elderly or shut-ins.

Likewise, if you are available to call a parishioner on a daily basis to check in on them that would be much appreciated. Or, if you would like to be contacted daily to be checked on, please contact the church staff or Father David. Thank you.

## Pastoral Care Committee—to begin at St. David's

*Submitted by Barb Van Dyke*

I have been designated by Episcopal Church Women as the coordinator of the pastoral care committee for St. David's. Pastoral Care at this time will be providing assistance for the members of St. David's who have a need such as meals following a time in the hospital; someone to sit with a family member for a short time while the primary caregiver goes out for a while; someone to pick up a prescription or a bottle of milk; be a friendly visitor to parishioners who are in nursing home to name a few situations where pastoral care is needed. This does not take the place of the pastoral care by Father David and Father Bill; in fact they may be the ones to initiate a referral to our committee.

This is a fledgling committee and in need of volunteers who will come forth that we may call when we get a request for assistance. Some referrals will

come from the office as they get called for many things and they will need to have someone to call.

I am looking for a volunteer to help with the set-up and coordination of this new, important and exciting committee.

Some ways to contact Barb Van Dyke are by phone and leaving a voice mail at (517) 699-2366, cell phone (517) 281-1249, or e-mail [blvandyke@ameritech.net](mailto:blvandyke@ameritech.net). Barb is gone during the day, but checks her e-mail before she leaves in the morning and first thing when she gets home. She also carries her cell phone with her and will return calls as soon as possible during the day.

Please come forth and offer your time for this ministry. Thank you.

## Daughters of the King to meet

There will be a meeting of Daughters of the King on Tuesday, November 8, 2005 at 7:00 p.m.

The location for this meeting will be on the board as you walk into the church.

If you have any questions, please see Carolyn Jacobs or call her at (517) 622-1983.



## THANK YOU from notaboutmeministries

I wish to thank St. David's family for allowing me the opportunity of addressing the congregation on October 16th.

For those not in attendance, who wish to receive a picture, please contact me at (517) 627-2486 or leave me a note in my church mailbox.

For me, this is truly a wonderful ministry and a way to give back to our sisters and brothers of God.

Again, thanks so much. God Bless. - Jim and Company



## St. Nicholas Bazaar returns

*Submitted by Andrea Flitton*

Calling all crafters! The second annual St. Nicholas Bazaar will be held the first weekend in December (2nd and 3rd).

We will be hosting many of the same crafters that joined us last year, but we are looking for a few more. We will be using all the classrooms and the Great Hall this year.

Instead of the bistro we had last year, we will be hosting a St. Nicholas Tea House.

We need donations of crafts and baked goods again. Sorry, we cannot accept used items.

This year, the money raised will be used by the ECW (Episcopal Church Women) to purchase new curtains or towards covering the couches in the Great Hall.

Jan Volk and Andrea Flitton will need your help decorating the halls the weekend previous, or one of the evenings during the week prior to the event. We will also need help setting up tables and chairs.

We are hoping for a great church family turnout this year; this isn't just our project, it is for the entire church.

For more information, please contact Andrea Flitton at (517) 321-2219 or Jan Volk at (517) 626-6236. Thank you.

## The Healing Corner...



*Submitted by John Post*

I had a very unusual experience this summer. Several weeks before my hip joint replacement surgery I received a letter from my surgeon stating, "As you anticipate surgery, several questions occasionally come up that I would like to answer for you. If you would like me to be involved with any of these, please let me know."

One of the questions was, "Will you pray with me?" And, the answer was, "I believe God is our healer and listens when we talk to him in prayer. If you ask me to pray with you, I would be honored to do so." What a wonderful opportunity! So, before I was taken into the operating room, I asked my surgeon to pray with me. He prayed a very warm and comforting prayer for my recovery, the surgical processes, and me.

Following his prayer for me, I prayed for him, thanking God for the gifts He had given him and asking that God would guide his hands and mind during my surgery. As I went into the operating room, I was comforted in knowing that I was well covered with prayer by my family, my friends, my priest, and my physician!

Everything went well in the operating room and with my recovery. I'm grateful to God, who answers prayer, that my hip pain is gone and that I now can walk normally!

All of this reminded me of a statement made by Larry Dossey, M.D. in his book *Prayer Is Good Medicine*. He said, "Will we reach a point where physicians who ignore prayer will be judged guilty of malpractice?"

## Education for Ministry

*Submitted by Barb Van Dyke*

Education for Ministry is looking for a new beginning in January 2006. I will be attending a mentor-training program in Sewanee, Tennessee early in January and will plan an information and sign-up meeting in mid-January.

The primary learning method of

Education for Ministry is theological reflection based on Scripture, church history, and theology and group experience.

As the group members increase their knowledge in the aforementioned subjects, the theological reflections become more in depth

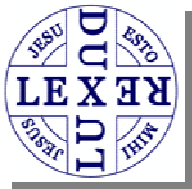
and the group becomes more adept at using them to make decisions concerning all facets of their life.

Education for Ministry is truly a life changing experience if carried through the four years of the program.



## Order of St. Luke the Physician celebrating it's 10 year birthday this month

Submitted by John Post, Convener



On November 10th, the St. David's/Capital Area Chapter of The Order of St. Luke the Physician will be 10 years old!

It was on that date in 1995 at a Healing Conference at St. David's that the Reverend Al Durance, North America OSL Warden Emeritus, officially installed our Chapter and inducted Father Pike as our Chaplain.

For some of us it was an especially joyful occasion, inasmuch as we had been members of the national organization for year but

had no local group in which we could function.

Since then the St. David's Chapter has been meeting regularly for study, fellowship, prayer, and business.

In addition, we have sponsored four weekend healing conferences at St. David's, paired up with the church's Eucharistic Lay Ministers to make home and hospital visits, provided "Healing Corner" articles for the St. David's newsletter, made available OSL "Sharing" magazines at St. David's, and assisted others who desired to develop prayer ministries in their own cultures. It's

been a busy decade!

The membership of the St. David's/Capital Area Chapter is open to persons of all Christian denominations who are interested in the healing ministry of Jesus. We meet on the fourth Wednesday of the month at 7:00 p.m. at St. David's.

At the present time we have approximately 20 members, including at least four from other area churches.

If you are interested in learning about the Order of St. Luke or visiting our meetings, please see John Post.

### November Birthdays

1st- Taylor Walton  
3rd- Eric Root  
3rd- Connie Fisher  
7th- Jeanne Fraas  
8th- Abby Leinbach  
9th- Kelly Zasko  
10th- Laura McNeil  
10th- Alexa Brewer  
11th- Robert Nostrant

12th- David Sonnenberg  
12th- Jarred Brabon  
12th- Walter Reynolds  
14th- Gary Mugnolo  
15th- Blake Stamper  
16th- Carrie Severson  
16th- Eric Severson  
16th- Char Sherman  
19th- Sara Ostrom

19th- Krista Stanton  
23rd- Rob Oleson  
23rd- Lorayne Otto  
23rd- Connie Brewer  
24th- Kara Langenberg  
29th- Shirley Anne Smith  
29th- Nicholas Reynolds

### November Anniversaries

9th- Jim & Elaine Tolsma  
21st- Kent & Marjorie Allemeier  
26th- Ken & Dawn Zawadzinski



### Note from St. David's:

If you happen to spill something on the carpet, there is carpet cleaner/stain lifter beneath the sink (island sink). Please make a point of cleaning up your mess. Thank you.

### Snapshots welcome for newsletter

Do you have a snapshot highlighting your event? If so, please submit it to the Good News Letter. You may place it in Sarah Taber's mailbox (#162) or e-mail it to her. (All photographs will be returned.)



## Joshua, the church mouse, overheard....

Carol Abbott and John Winter have a new son-in-law now. Carol's daughter, Angela Kressler married Matthew Clark at St. David's on October 15, 2005 with a reception at the Grand Ledge Opera House. Robert and Shirley Bailey are home after a brief time of traveling. Bonnie Brooks has a lovely home for sale if anyone knows of someone who would like to move into a fully remodeled ranch house. Kathy Brown is recovering from a bout of the flu. Norma Bunday attended the Zonta Club conference in Mt. Pleasant. Dave and Janie Byers have been to points north and south but are home now. Larry Byers is preparing to go to the Gulf Coast to help with rebuilding after Hurricane Katrina. Stephanie Cote, Karon Ellis, and Bob Nordlund attended the latest Cursillo weekend. Many St. David's parishioners worked on the weekend. Dr. Tim Flynn took his choir from Olivet and sang in Toronto at the church of Father David and Nancy's friend, The Reverend Canon R. Terry DeForest. I hear the music was wonderful. Keep Jeanne Fraas in your prayers as she continues to have problems with her health. Patricia Harlow is back in town from her summer home up north. It is good to see her again. Francis Jacobs is recovering from minor surgery to have his tonsils removed. Ken Klumpp continues to recover from his knee surgery. Continue to keep the Kriek family in your prayers following the death of Joan Kriek. Scottie and Helen Lee had a great visit to Canada to see family. Craig, Abby and Sheridan Leinbach are

home after a vacation to visit family and friends. Casey McGovern has married but I forgot what Father David told me her new last name was. Bob and Glennis Muncie are home after a trip to Washington D.C. where they attended Bob's Pilots Reunion. Dick and Lorayne Otto held a great Open House to bless and celebrate being in their new home in DeWitt. Charlie Parker is home after a brief stay in Ingham Medical Center for breathing problems. Bonnie Shulnburg has bought a home for herself and the office has her new address. Genny Strang has moved in with her daughter due to her health problems. Jim Swift spent a brief time in the hospital recently. Jim Thurston did a great presentation of his "notaboutmeministries" at church not too long ago. Russ Vine has been busy working on the new sacristy and it looks great! I hear that Adam Williams is doing a great job of painting the new Rectory. Wonder when Father David and Nancy will be having their Open House? Have a great Thanksgiving and don't forget to leave me some crumbs.



Also, don't forget that there will be a Festival Eucharist to celebrate Thanksgiving on Wednesday November 23, 2005 beginning at 6:30 p.m. There will be a full choir at this service. Bring family and friends and give thanks to God for your many blessings. This is a great way to start a holiday weekend.

## Operation Christmas Child - deadline November 20, 2005

Submitted by Carol Abbott

It is once again time to pack those shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child.

With all the recent catastrophes of hurricanes, earthquakes, floods and the wars, there is a great need for these this year.

The boxes are distributed all over the world including the United States. Let's see if we can show God's love with an increase in the number of

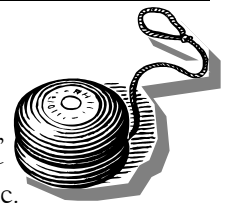
shoeboxes from St. David's this year.

You may pack a box yourself or bring in toys and other supplies to be put in boxes. There are boxes on the desk in the Great Hall for items to be put in boxes.

Please remember, no war toys, chocolate (it melts!) or liquids.

Items that are good are small toys that do not require batteries, pencils, pa-

per, crayons, yo-yos, solar calculators, rulers, t-shirts, socks, etc.



If you fill a box, please wrap with the lid separate and label it for a boy or girl with the age range clearly listed as 1-4, 5-9, or 10-14.

If you have any questions, please contact Carol Abbott at (517) 627-1325. Carol's mailbox is also number 126.



## Important Contact Information

### Saint David's:

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

### Vestry:

Bill Paff, Senior Warden Box 118  
Steve Leiby, Junior Warden Box 70  
Carol Abbott Box 126  
John Runcie Box 50  
Nancy Howard Box 59  
David Byers Box 15  
Debbie Cornell Box 28  
Jeff Spitzley Box 52  
Dick Otto Box 82  
Jerri Hoffman Box 107  
Gail Donovan Box 17  
Francis Jacobs Box 4

### Office Staff:

Edith Cole Box 26

### Good News Letter:

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

### Service & Schedule:

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

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Fax: (517) 323-2830  
E-mail: stdavids1962@aol.com  
Web: www.stdavidslansing.org

### Saint John's:

Rev. Dr. Carol A. Spangenberg, Rector  
Barbara Stephon, Music Director

### Vestry:

John Kozitzki, Senior Warden  
Lisa Ward, Junior Warden  
Ted Dotts  
Bill Gin  
Mike Paul  
Jeff Shaud  
Alma Stahl  
Ruby Stofflet  
Linda Wheeler

### Office Staff:

Karen Gin, Secretary  
Dave Spangenberg, Treasurer

### Service & Schedule:

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

Saint John's Episcopal Church  
201 West Shepherd Street  
Charlotte, Michigan 48813  
Phone: (517) 543-4430  
Rev. Carol: (517) 321-0512  
Web: www.stjohns.charlotte@edwm.org

**Corrections:** Please note that as of May 1, 2005—the E-mail address for The Good News Letter has been changed to sarah.a.taber@gmail.com. Thank you.

The St. David's Good News Letter strives to provide accurate and fair reporting. It is our policy to correct errors of fact. If you think we may have published incorrect information, please call or e-mail Sarah Taber, Good News Letter Editor.

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Have a safe and happy  
Thanksgiving.

