



### **Family Fun Night**

*Submitted by Deacon Drew*

Our lives are busy. Sometimes we are too busy to sit at a table to eat dinner. Sometimes we have to pick it up on the way to an appointment. By skipping this time, we are missing out on something we truly need. It is in that spirit that we are bringing back Family Fun Night: an irregular evening event time that allows us to connect as families and with each other.

**Friday, November 9<sup>th</sup>, at 6:00, we will get together over pizza.** You are encouraged to bring games, a movie, or just yourselves! However you define family—couples, grandparents, guardians—all are welcome as long as they stick to the one agenda item: having fun!

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

### **Address Changes:**

**Jean Bechtel**

Hospice at St. Lawrence

### **ECW News**

*Submitted by Andi Flitton*

Our **St. Nicholas Day Craft Bazaar** is coming fast! We are looking for ideas for the St. David's Booth, and we are looking for Artists/Crafters. If you or someone you know would like to participate, please contact Andi Flitton at 517-321-2219.

Our Scrapbooking Event was fun for those of us who were able to participate. We will be scheduling another one soon, watch the newsletter for more details.

**Beginning November 2, we will have a craft time after the 9 a.m. service** to work on items for the bazaar, or if you have an ongoing project and just want to spend time with other crafters, feel free to join us. We will be getting together every Friday throughout November and the first two or three weeks in December. If this is a success, we will pick it up again in January. This will be a good time for thinking of service projects we can do for the community.

### **October 23, 2007 Vestry Report**

The September 25, 2007 minutes were approved and are posted on the bulletin board by the coat racks.

Reports were received from the Rector, Sr. Warden, Jr. Warden, Curate and Treasurer.

It was announced that the Dedication of the Memorial Garden will take place on November 4, 2007 at 1 pm.

A letter from Bishop Gepert regarding Deacon Drew's contract was reviewed.

The report from Layton and Richardson regarding the annual audit of the church books was reviewed.

\$500 was given to the Sarah Gorsch Travel Fund to help this young woman from our diocese attend National Youth Happening Board Meetings.

We have a signed contract for advertizing in the Lansing State Journal.

Dates for Youth Camp 2008 were presented. Sr. High (grades 9 – 12) will be Aug 3 – 9 and Jr Camp (grades 3 – 8) will be Aug 10 -16.

Reports were received from Vestry members regarding their specific Areas of Ministry

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**Financial Report – September 2007**

September Income	37,129.21
September Expense	<u>18,563.26</u>
Net	18,565.95
<b>Year to Date – Jan – Sept 2007</b>	
Income	200,613.54
Expense	<u>176,829.73</u>
Net	23,783.81

**Military News**

Ruby Klanecky is happy to report her grandson has arrived back at the San Diego Naval base after serving a 6 month deployment in the Pacific Ocean area. He will be leaving the Navy now and will continue his education in California.

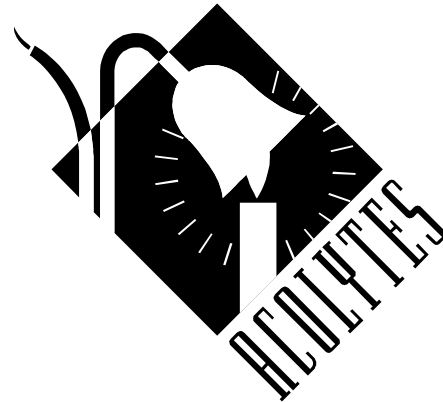
If you have news to report about someone in the military or nonmilitary working within the war, please submit it to the editor before the deadline date each month.

**SHOPPING EXTRAVAGANZA 2007!**

**Mark your calendars! The 2007 SHOPPING EXTRAVAGANZA is planned for Saturday, December 1 from 10:00 AM – 3:00 PM. Plan to visit the Great Hall for a wonderful selection of wares including:**

- Avon
- Bolin's Custom Imagery
- Floral Expressions & Glass Designs
- Jewelry Designs by Donna
- Longaberger Baskets
- Pampered Chef
- Clarks ladies' shoes
- Elk infant shoes
- Lia Sophia
- Mary Kay
- Tastefully Simple Gourmet Foods
- Tupperware
- Youth Booth
- Close to my Heart Scrapbooking
- Designs by Christine
- Queen Bee Cards and Accessories
- Uppercase Living
- Partylite Gifts
- Twined Rugs and Weavings
- Antique Machine Knitted Socks
- ... and more!

What an opportunity to get a jump-start on Christmas shopping! A portion of the profits from this function will support St. David's Youth program.



**National Acolyte Festival Report**

*Written by Tori Spitzley*

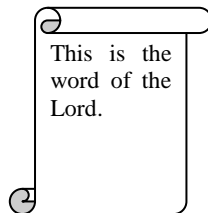
On Friday October 5<sup>th</sup>, 2007 the St. David's acolytes, accompanied by the acolytes of St. John's in Charlotte, started the long drive to Washington D.C. for the National Acolyte Festival. We took three cars and it took about 9 or so hours to complete the journey. On the journey we made several new friendships and had an overall great experience.

One of the most amazing parts of the trip was seeing the Cathedral. It was so big when you looked up at it that you felt as if it would fall over on top of you. The entire ceremony that went on inside the building was amazing. Seeing all the members of the different churches was a cool experience. The uniform the Bishop wore was also very beautiful.

We also visited the World War II Memorial, the Lincoln Memorial and the Washington

Memorial. Seeing these sites in person was an overwhelming experience. I hope we get a chance to go back and see more of the city. It was too huge to fit into one day.

All the acolytes would like to thank the members of St. David's that made the trip possible. It was a great experience and for most of us it was the first time being there. I would especially like to thank Rev. and Mrs. Downs, Mr. and Mrs. Jacobs, and Mrs. Stanton for putting up with the ups and downs of taking preteens and teenagers on an extended weekend. Thank you for taking the time out of your own lives to share the experience with us.



**Layreaders Needed**

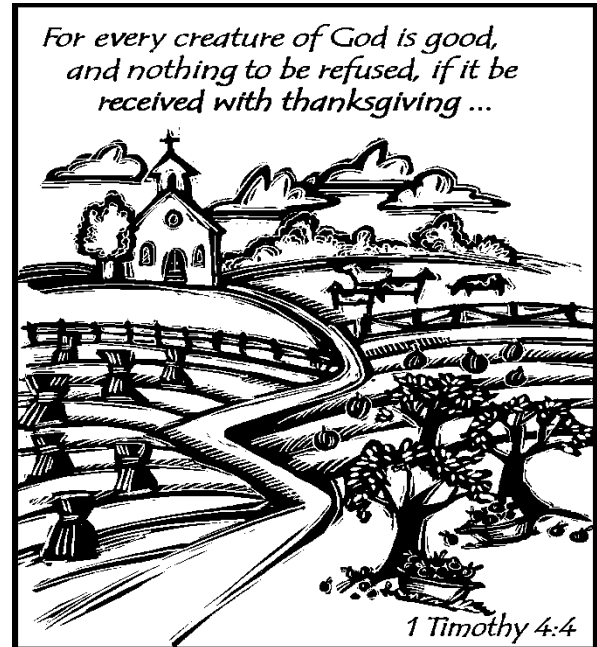
Written by Kerry Chapin

Want to be more involved as a servant for Christ? Are you a strong reader? Do you feel at ease reading in front of other Christians? Would you be comfortable in the sanctuary during a service? If you can answer yes -Please prayerfully consider joining the Layreader team. We also are Chalice bearers and are part of the Lay Eucharist ministry. If this is an area of ministry that you would like to consider, please talk to Fr. David, or give Gretchen Smith a call 321-4955.

**THEY'RE COMING BACK AGAIN**

Submitted by John Post

**Mark your calendars--March 7 & 8, 2008!** The Rev. Jack and Anna Marie Sheffield of Deep Water Ministries, San Antonio, TX will be leading a Healing Conference here at St. David's. The conference is being sponsored by The St. David's/Capital Area Chapter of The Order of St. Luke the Physician. Stay tuned in for more information, but **MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW!**



**Thanksgiving For Life**

*Psalm 100*

*Be joyful in the Lord, all you lands; serve the Lord with gladness and come before his presence with a song. Know this: The Lord himself is God; he himself has made us, and we are his; we are his people and the sheep of his pasture. Enter his gates with thanksgiving; go into his courts with praise; give thanks to him and call upon his Name. For the Lord is good; his mercy is everlasting; and his faithfulness endures from age to age.*

The month of November is a month during which we specifically set aside time to give thanks for all our blessings. Here, in the northern part of the nation, most farmers have their crops in and can relax a little and give thanks for what was hopefully a good harvest. For those of us who don't farm for a living, the busy-ness of early fall eases off just a bit. Thankfully this gives us a "breather" before the whirlwind month of December and the season of Christmas.

As a nation, we have much for which to be thankful. Many of us enjoy a standard of living only dreamed about by our brothers and sisters in third-world nations. Many, but not all, enjoy health care not imagined as few as fifty years ago. Few of us go

to bed hungry; most of us have disposable income greater than the yearly wages of a vast majority of people in other nations.

We are surrounded by affluence and material possessions which are mind numbing; yet in the midst of all this, we want more. We dream, plan, work, and execute carefully our actions so that we can have the latest, best and biggest of whatever it is our fancy desires.

Some of this does indeed bring great happiness to the lives of people. Some use this wealth to help others less fortunate. Others, however, are still not happy with all they have. Some are filled with fear and act out accordingly. Most forget that it is God who blesses us so abundantly. Just as we have been given much, so much is expected from us.

During this month of November and especially on Thanksgiving Day, take some time to take stock of your many blessings. Begin with the people who are important to you. Have you taken the time lately to tell them how important they are to you, how they have impacted, shaped, and molded your life? Have you been tolerant with an older forgetful parent in a way that perhaps echoes their tolerance of you as a child?

Move on to your material possessions. Is there something in your closet, basement, or attic that you no longer need or use which could be given to someone who has lost everything in a house fire or other disaster? Are there unread books that could be donated to the library to be checked out by others who cannot afford to go to Barnes and Noble for the latest best seller? Have your possessions become so great that they now possess you?

Finally, sit down and give true and heartfelt thanks to God for all your blessings – a warm house, plenty of food, health, family, friends, and the 101 other things we take for granted. It is easy to focus on our aches and pains and forget about the incredible, abundant blessings that are here right before our eyes. We should be giving thanks to God for all we have. It should be something we do every day and not just on Thanksgiving Day.

May God always bless and keep you.

With deepest affection,

*Fr. David*

## **Youth Ministry News**

It seems that if you want to go anywhere, you have to go through Ohio. My previous trips through Ohio have left me with one overarching thought: is there any way to drive southeast without having to go through Ohio? A previous trip down to West Virginia had my group down to the Ohio border, only to follow that border for many more miles, staring at our destination state.

Driving through Ohio this time with the acolytes on our maiden voyage to the National Acolyte Festival was a lot less challenging. For one, I'm no longer a teenager, stuck in the back seat—I was the driver—and for another, the vastness of Ohio is less impressive than it used to be. There are many excuses for this: I've gained wisdom with my age, perhaps or I'm much more used to long trips after commuting back and forth to seminary. The honest truth is something else. I can't take credit for wisdom, nor can I suggest that my experience transformed my understanding of the world so thoroughly. It is vibrancy.

There is something about youth that many of us voluntarily give up as we age that I seem to only accurately describe as vibrancy. Maybe it's the fear of rejection or the fear of actually getting that for which we ask. Maybe it's the preference for subtlety that makes the honest too elusive. Maybe it's only the caution that we develop after watching so many good relationships turn sour or strained ones become new love and adoration, but we have become so cautious and timid—something we didn't always feel as tweens or teens.

It was quite audacious to take eight of our youth, ages 11-15 down to Washington D.C. for the National Acolyte Festival October 5-7. It was a feat of sheer determination and blind ambition that we were able to pull it off and make it the resounding success that it was. We included a second congregation, a second clergyperson and four more teens. Our whirlwind tour of the Festival and the National Cathedral, visiting the monuments and the driving tour of the capital found us returning home seemingly hours after we left it. The learning that was most important to me, however, was in vibrancy. This is a vibrancy that found expression in a willingness to love and fight and play and commune with friends and strangers.

[Continued on next page]

As an adult, I have been taught to dull emotions as a means of coping with the trauma of living a vibrant life; but in dulling my emotions, I dull all of my senses! The very fibers with which I interact with my environment, my eyes, my ears, my lips, my skin, have all been dulled for the simple preservation of my heart! But we are much stronger than that. How much weaker we think ourselves than God!

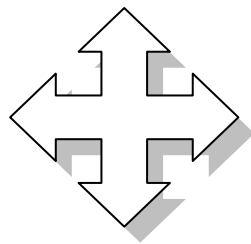
This trip awakened in me the desire to live with vibrancy; an element so naturally inherent to our younger lives and sometimes so missing from busy back-and-forths and career/home/family juggling. How alike this feeling is to being open to the workings of the Spirit. As we approach the end of the church's year and the entering into the opening of the new year marked by Advent, I encourage all of us to open ourselves a little bit: opening ourselves to the movement of the Spirit. Why? Because our *faith* is sensory. Genesis begins with these verses:

In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters.

We are *moved* by the physicality of faith: darkness *covering*, a wind *swept*: and the image is this: "a wind from God swept over *the* face of the waters."

May we be open. May we feel. May we encounter our God in the language of God.

The Rev. Drew Downs  
Curate



**Biweekly Book Study**

Submitted by Drew Downs

Called "Searching for the Dream," our book study has decided to meet biweekly, moving to Monday nights. The next meeting, November 12<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm will continue with the second half of *The Dream of God* by Verna Dozier. The emphasis of the book study is on elements of our Christian heritage and

how they inform our gathering and worship. We also immerse the study in the midst of evening prayer.

Our next book is likely to be *The Womb of Advent* by Mark Bozzuti-Jones. The author examines the season of Advent through the eyes of Jesus anticipating his own birth and what Christians could learn from the sense of anticipation so central to the season.

Please contact Deacon Drew for more information about either book or to find copies.

**November Happenings to note:**

- 1-MOPS
- 2/3-last two photo sessions for the "Family Album"
- 4 -Time to change our clocks-fall back one hour
- 8 -Senior World luncheon 11:15am
- 9-ClayWorks Sale  
-ECW Coffee & Crafts 9-12n
- 10-Grand Ultreya 10am  
-ClayWorks Sale
- 12-Book Study 7pm. In Chapel
- 15 -MOPS  
**-NEWSLETTER DEADLINE**
- 16-ECW Coffee & Crafts
- 21-Eve of Thanksgiving Service
- 22-Thanksgiving Day  
-Office Closed
- 23-Office Closed  
**-No Friday Eucharist**  
ECW Coffee & Crafts
- 26-Book Study 7pm in Chapel
- 27-Vestry Meets 7pm.

**News from Joshua church mouse**

**Carol Abbott** took three of our youth to the Diocesan Outreach Project at Holy Trinity in Wyoming. It was a good learning experience for the youth and adults. **Robert and Shirley Bailey** are back in town after traveling this autumn. It is good to see them again. **Pearl Brooks** and some of her family took a trip up north to the Deer Camp. A good time was had by all. **Janie Byers** is back from visiting Frank and Sharon Pansino in Florida and **Dave** is back from his camping/fishing trip to the UP. He even came back sporting a whiskers! Thankfully the tornado that hit Williamston did not do any damage to their property. **Deacon Drew and Rose** attended the Diocesan Convention for Eastern Michigan and had a good time visiting with family and friends. **Carey Draeger** is back in town for a few weeks before taking a job in the south cooking for another Tall Ship. It was great seeing **Carey** and her grandson **Koby** again. **Elida Gamboa** is in Arizona visiting her daughter. Please keep her family in your prayers as they struggle with health issues. It was super seeing **Tom and Nancy George** in church. The really big surprise is that they did coffee hour that Sunday! As this goes to press we are still waiting to hear if **Shirley Matthew's** is a grandmother for the first time yet. Her son, Seth and his wife are due directly. I just heard that **Eric and Jessica (Leigh) Menold** are expecting a second child. I am sure grandparents, **Steve and Carole Leigh** and Great-grandma **Joyce Leigh** are thrilled! I don't know when the due date is for **Eric and Jessica**, but will let you know when I hear. **Bob and Glennis Muncie** grow stronger each day and are almost back to normal around the church. **Patricia Purol** continues to recover from one of several surgeries this year. She is still looking for people to act as mentors for KidsHope USA. Remember, it's one child, one hour, once a week during the school year. What a great way to have an impact on the life of a young person. **Emily Rattray and Chris Wenstrom** were married here on October 27<sup>th</sup>. It was a beautiful twilight service. I think **Dick and Carol Schmidt** are back home from their many travels. **Fr. Jerry Smith** is home from a stay in the hospital. He is slowly getting stronger. **Pat Vine** is home and about the same. Keep her and **Russ** in your prayers. **Jaime William's** car was struck from behind spraying glass everywhere, but thankfully no one was hurt. I hear the **Acolyte Festival at National**

**Cathedral** in Washington DC was great. We sent five adults and eight young people; St. John's Charlotte sent two adults and four young people. Everyone found the Cathedral impressive and everyone wanted to spend more time in DC. Already they are planning a return trip. Cursillo Weekend 64 was held here at St. David's. We had two candidates, **Tim Cote** and **Chris Wenstrom** attending and many people working on the team. **Kerry** says the building was in good shape when everyone was gone. I have to get out and collect some more winter food. It is a busy time for me and my family.

*And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.*

*Col. 3:17*



Outreach Food Baskets for this Thanksgiving will be put together November 16 and distributed Saturday the 17<sup>th</sup>.

Tis the season...

### Christmas Flowers

As always we are asking for contributions for flowers to decorate the church. These contributions may be made as a memorial or as a thank offering and will be included in the Christmas Eve bulletin. Contributions and announcements MUST be in the church office by December 20<sup>th</sup>. You may put them in the offering plate, mail it to St. David's, or drop it off with Edie in the office.

I wish to contribute money for Christmas flowers.

In honor of \_\_\_\_\_ or in memory of \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

From: \_\_\_\_\_

## St. Nicholas Day Bazaar

**Friday, December 7, 2007, from 5 pm to 8 pm, and  
Saturday, December 8, 2007, from 9 am to 4 pm.**

***St. David's Episcopal Church***

***1519 Elmwood Rd.***

***Lansing, MI 48917, 1/2 mile north of the Lansing  
Mall***

**Beautiful hand turned wooden items, lovely handcrafted  
jewelry, candles! Much more!**

**Important Contact Information**

Rev. David R. Pike, Rector frdavid.stdavids@sbcglobal.net	box 103
Rev. Drew Downs, Deacon andrew.stdavids@sbcglobal.net	box 78
Rev. Bill Ericson, Pastoral Assistant	box 40
Dr. Timothy Flynn, Music Director	box 147
Edie Nordlund, Admin. Assistant <a href="mailto:office.stdavids@sbcglobal.net">office.stdavids@sbcglobal.net</a>	box 35
Kerry Chapin, M.of M. (sexton)	box 111

**VESTRY CONTACTS:**

Gail Donovan, Senior Warden	box 17
David Sonnenberg, Junior Warden	box 138
David Byers, Treasurer	box 15
Craig Leinbach, Asst. Treasurer	box 27
Carolyn Jacobs, Clerk	box 4
Carol Abbott	box 126
Tim Cote'	box 90
Nancy Howard	box 59
Sue Kohler	box 75
Patrick Lynaugh	box 1
Bob Nordlund	box 35
Dick Otto	box 82
Jeff Spitzley	box 52
Barb VanDyke	box 73
Adam Williams	box 143

Fall Service Schedule:

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

**Wednesday: 6:30pm**

**Friday: 9am**

**Thanksgiving Service will be on the evening of Wednesday the 21<sup>st</sup> at 6:30pm.**

**Newsletter deadline**

**for December Edition**

**is Thursday November 15**

**Newsletter Editor**

*Kerry Chapin*

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