



What is the Bible—do you know the answer?

Submitted by Father David

B Basic
 I Information
 B Before
 L Leaving
 E Earth

On my desk is a clipping from somewhere with the above information, giving one definition for the word "Bible". I keep it there as a constant reminder of what direction I need to be going in and what directions I need to get there. For all Christians, the Bible must be a foundation stone and guide for every aspect of our lives. It cannot be something we casually approach and use as we feel so inclined. We are called to spend time daily with our Bible, to learn from it, and to allow it to shape and form us.

In my personal Bible time, I have just finished the Book of Revelation and once again find myself starting over with the Book of Genesis. Last time I started with Genesis was in May 2004 as I began my Sabbatical. At that time, when I came across the story of Terah taking Abram, his son, Lot, his grandson, and Sarai, his daughter-in-law, from the comfort and security of Ur and journeying into the unknown, I thought of myself, leaving the comfort and security of Lansing and journeying first to Arizona and then on to the lands of my childhood. As with Abram, I realized I needed to trust fully in the Lord and what He would show me during my Sabbatical journey. I was not disappointed.

Now as I begin once again reading the Bible from cover to cover, the story of Terah, Abram, Lot, and Sarai join me as companions of discovery. As before, I find myself in the role of Abram with a lesson to learn from God.

I can truthfully say that, like Abram prior to his leaving Ur, I have reached a point of great contentment in my life. Nancy and I spent time this summer adjusting to Jennifer being married and lovingly cared for by Neal, whom we also love dearly. Her room has been completely transformed from the yellows and lavender of a young woman's room to the warmer dusty roses of a true guest room. I was able to spend a great deal of time in my gardens, making some changes that I've thought about for several years. Some plants were discarded, new ones added, old ones divided and moved to new locations.

Andrew is doing well in college at Oberlin and beginning to explore seriously what he hopes to do with his future life. He grew a great deal in college last year and we expect further growth and change this year.

I anticipated a predictable autumn at St. David's; busy building on plans and dreams already in process. As so often is the case, God has other plans. Through a year of prayer and reflection, Dick and Lorayne Otto have discerned that God is calling them to donate their home at

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



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

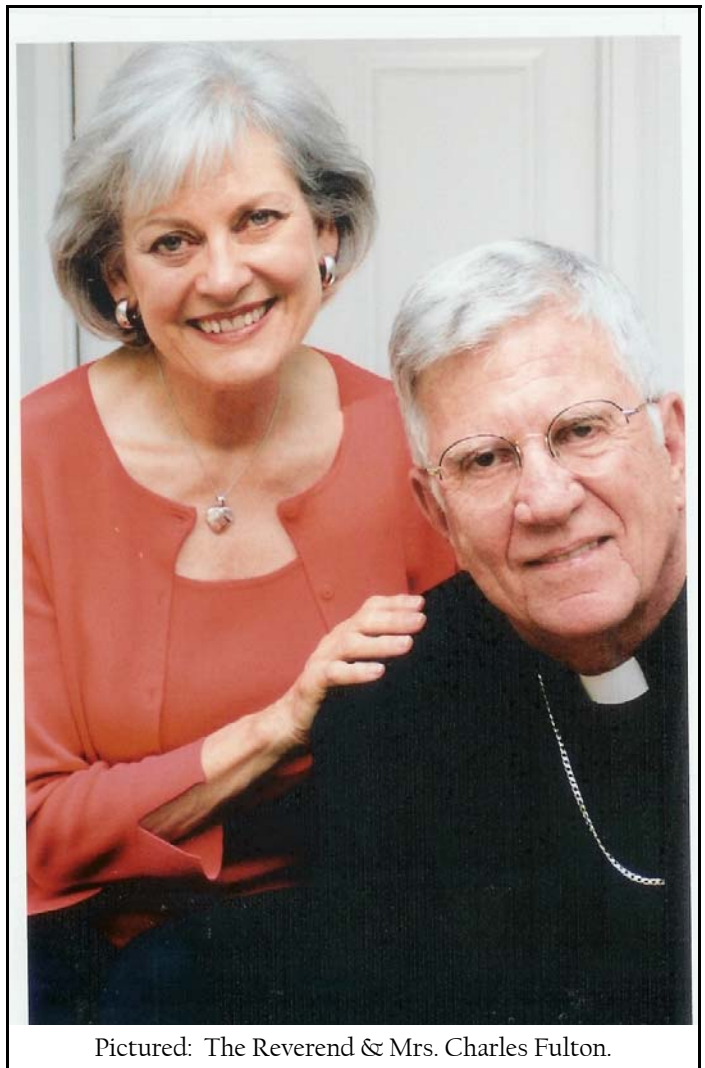
Submitted by John Post

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.

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.



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 I 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.

Happening is happening in November

Taken from the Sunday bulletin

Attention all high school teenagers (grades 9-12).

The next diocesan *Happening* weekend will be held from November 11th—13th at St. John's Episcopal Church in Grand Haven.



Happening is a fun, spiritually charged weekend youth program held all across the globe for teens, by teens.

You will be able to meet many new friends from the diocese, and will have the opportunity to get to know Jesus on a more personal level as a result of this experience. It will be the time of your life!

If you are interested in knowing more about *Happening*, or would like to pick up an application for the upcoming fall weekend, contact Gary Mugnolo at (517) 321-4093 or Father David.

The absolute deadline for registration to attend this fall *Happening* weekend is Friday, October 14th, so let's get busy and sign up today!

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

Taken from Sunday bulletin

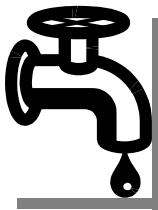
From time to time, the church office receives a call from a parishioner asking if someone could please pick up a prescription, go to the post office, or take someone to the doctor's office. The church staff is asking for 10 to 12 volunteers to 'have a day' when they would be available to do such things. 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.



The Watermen's Corner

Submitted by Jim Thurston



Greetings everyone!

The summer flew by, and once again, I find myself behind the typewriter searching for things to say. However, my search this time is a bit more difficult because the Watermen as a group that plans and meets monthly, will sadly give it a rest for a while.

The Job Jar and Pancake Supper will continue but monthly meetings and other programs the Watermen hosted will be on hold until another time.

Thanks for all the well wishers and attendees in the past but a new direction must be explored. God will provide that direction I am sure.

God Bless.

Adult Bible Study class offered

Taken from Sunday bulletin

Did you know that the Bible contains 37,000 promises made to you by God— promises for your salvation, spiritual growth, personal needs, family, relationships, and eternal future?

Are you interested in knowing more about these God-guaranteed promises and about what God has to say on a lot of different topics?

Then come to the Adult Sunday Bible Discussion class. Classes meet each Sunday morning in the Multi-purpose room at 9:10 a.m.

Discussion focuses on the Bible readings for each Sunday. Coffee, discussion materials and lively discussion are provided free of charge.

Please see John Post for more information. Thank you.

Christian Education

Fall 2005

Submitted by Debbie Cornell

St. David's annual Fall Family outing to Uncle John's Cider Mill will be held on Sunday, October 23rd. We will be leaving from the church around 1:00 p.m. and returning by 6:00 p.m. If you need a ride, please contact Debbie Cornell at (517) 241-5919 during the day or evenings at (517) 647-2089.



GNL editor wants to say thank you

Submitted by Sarah Taber

I would like to take a moment to express a heartfelt thank you to all the men and women who spend time each month preparing the hard copy of the newsletter for mailing.

These persons include: Larry Carey, Jerry & Carol Williams, Pearl Brooks, Bob & Glennis Muncie, Norma Bunday, Eleanor Robinson, Charles Henley, Barbara Underhill, and John Post.

This publication would not be what it is today without all your hard work. Thank you for all that you do.

Church directory being updated

Taken from Sunday bulletin

Please note: St. David's is in the process of updating the church directory.

If you have any changes to your contact information, please call the church office at (517) 323-2272 or write them down and place them in mailbox #26.

The deadline to submit all changes is no later than October 14th. Thank you.

Please be sure we have your e-mail address, birth date and anniversary correct as well.



Order of St. Luke celebrating it's 10 year birthday in November 2005

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 for more information.

October Birthdays

5th—Barbara Jones
5th—Heather McGinnis
6th—Nancy George
6th—William Stanton
6th—Matt Hosmer
7th—Michael Stephens
8th—Michael Transeth
8th—Betty Payne
11th—Sharon Phipps

12th—Paula Hawes
13th—Gerry Puro
15th—Dawn Sonnenberg
15th—Lucille Burgess
16th—Genevieve Strang
19th—Frank Howard
19th—Tyron Davis II
20th—Lee Brooks
20th—Stephanie Cote

20th—Gail Donovan
21st—Maria Leiby
22nd—Aaron Phipps
23rd—Jim Buzzie
29th—Ken Zawadzinski
30th—Kathy Brown



October Anniversaries

7th—Bob & Pauline Solomon
10th—Michael & Cassandra Vaughn
11th—Craig & Abby Leinbach

11th—Mark & Vickie Tisdale
18th—Patrick Lynaugh & Randyll Shook
29th—Neil & Myrna VanEpps

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.)



BIBLE, continued from page 1

1707 Sagebrush to St. David's. They informed me of this two weeks ago, and made their gift to the church officially at the Vestry meeting last Tuesday. Several prayer warriors whom they and I trust fully have confirmed their discernment.

There are three conditions with their gift. First, St. David's must keep the house for a minimum of two years. Second, should at any time in the future the parish decide to sell the house, the money must be placed in the permanent endowment, where the interest only may be used for future housing expenses. Finally, the house is to be used by the current and all future Rectors and their families as a place to live.

This is an extraordinary gift and will in the future make St. David's much more desirable in the clergy market. The current Rectory will be empty for a

short period of time and then some time after January will house the Assistant and his/her family.

Scripture is teaching me today that change is hard. I have mixed emotions about leaving the place that I have lived longer than any other place in my whole life. I suspect Abram felt much the same. Abram trusted in God and was wonderfully blessed. I am trusting in the Lord, and in all my past experiences have been wonderfully blessed. The parish will have to trust in the Lord, and I fully expect we will discover that God has wonderful blessings planned for us. It may not be the fall we had anticipated, but with God in charge, I am ready and willing to embrace it. Together, let's see what God has in store for us.

With deepest affection,
Father David

Joshua, the church mouse, overheard....

Thanks to Nancy Burns and her crew for keeping up the church gardens. They are doing a super job! Gail Donovan is home after a working vacation to Utah. She is so tanned from riding about in a convertible. Carey Draeger is back after cooking out east for a Civil War film. Don't know when it will reach the market, but I am sure Carey is willing to tell you all about it. Tom and Nancy George have been back in town and stopped by the church. They want prayers that their home in Lansing will sell. Frank and Nancy Howard are all settled in their new home in Verndale. Both like not having all the stairs to climb! Faris Howrani's brother Ameen, had a serious stroke and needs your prayers. Mike Johnson and Harold Payne put the sign up on the back of the church giving entrance directions. It looks very nice and will be helpful for our guests. Beverly and Branyo Kasper had a daughter, Grace who also is the granddaughter of Janet and Don Volk. Diane Kent continues to live with cancer and continues to ask for your prayers. Ken Klumpp asks for your prayers as he prepares to have a knee replacement. Joan Kriek continues to recover from having her left foot and ankle removed

as a result of her diabetes. After a long summer of recovery, Helen and Scottie Lee are back in church and look great. Carol Abbott is now retired from the city of Lansing and already busier than ever before. Brian Paff is busy doing his residency and right off the bat saved a person's life-doing CPR. Way to go Brian! Kay Paff just became the new President of Western Michigan Episcopal Cursillo. John Post is recovering very well from his hip replacement. It is great to see John without a walker. Pat and Gerry Purol ask for prayers for their daughter Kristin who is working through some difficulties in her life right now. Dick and Carol Schmidt are home after traveling south and fleeing the hurricane Katrina. Mike Shadowens has a new job as a loan officer in Grand Rapids. Pat Steele just retired as President of Western Michigan Episcopal Cursillo. Notice how relaxed he looks! Leo and Meda Thrall have moved north and are all settled in their new home. The office has a new address for them. Russ and Pat Vine have a new Yorkie puppy named Tiger (puppies are better than kittens because they leave us mice alone!).





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
Sue Gabel

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.

Saint David's Episcopal Church
1519 Elmwood Road
Lansing, Michigan 48917
Phone: (517) 323-2272
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

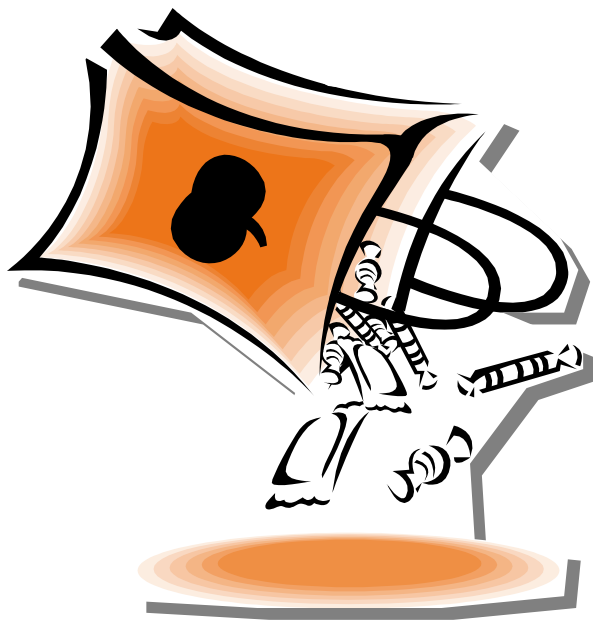
Corrections: Please note that as of May 1, 2005—the E-mail address for The Good News Letter has been changed to sarah.a.taber@gmail.com. Thank you.

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.

St. David's Episcopal Church
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Lansing, Michigan 48917

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Happy Halloween!!!



Please have a safe and Happy Halloween!!