

All Saints Day

Submitted by Father David

Honorio said: "We does our dying when we baptized, Miss Olivia. If it ain't done then, ain't never going to be done properly. When you is baptized your angel gives you a shove and you touch eternity, and eternity ain't got nothing to do with time at all. Once you brush against eternity, Miss Livvy, then time and death don't make no never-mind. Everything going to go. Everything. The ocean and the beach. The fireflies and the pelicans. The stars in their courses. Time end. Everything go. Then we know what it is like."

"What what's like?" Aunt Olivia asked.

Honorio responded: "The end of time is the glory on the other side of the sun."

This past month one of my very favorite authors, Madeleine L'Engle died. Many years ago, Nancy and I were privileged to have dinner with Madeleine and I was fortunate to visit with her again several years ago. Madeleine, an Episcopalian and an Honorary Canon of the Cathedral of St. John's the Devine in New York City, is perhaps best known to many for her children's novel *A Wrinkle in Time*.

The above quote is from one of my favorite novels of hers, *The Other Side of the Sun*. This novel takes place at a summer house named Illyria on the coast of South Carolina in the early years of the 20th Century. It is about life, death, joy, sorrow, that which is good and that which is evil. It is a journey of discovery and learning; of being baptized into the secrets of a family and culture.

Shortly we will be celebrating All Saint's and All Soul's Days. On All Saint's Day we remember all the saints, living and dead. On All Soul's Day we remember the departed. All Saint's Day, a festival day in the church calendar year, is also a day specially set aside for baptisms.

Baptisms are a time of celebration in the life of the church community. Individuals are presented and received into the Lord's family. Once upon a time, baptisms were done on a Saturday morning or perhaps late afternoon. Usually it was the individual being baptized, his or her immediate family and the Godparents. It was a brief service.

With the adoption of the 1979 Book of Common Prayer, the leaders of the church made clear that baptism is an event the whole family of God should share in. Now almost all baptisms take place on Sunday morning during the principle worship service. We are fortunate here at St. David's in that

we have plenty of space up front to gather there as many of the baptismal candidate's family as possible. Having the event take place up front means everyone in the service can see what is going on and participate as well.

As a faithful people we should fully participate and rejoice in each and every baptism we witness. Our rejoicing is not, that St. David's has a new member and our numbers go up. Rather our rejoicing should be in that another person has been received into the household of God and has been granted the gift of new life and salvation.

It is only through the act of baptism that we are granted the gift of eternal life. All our sins past, present, and future are wiped away and we become part of God's family.

When I baptize a person, I baptize that person as a Christian, not an Episcopalian. I hope the person is able to continue to grow and mature at St. David's, but often that is not the case. My hope always is that where ever they are, they will find a faith community to continue their journey in the knowledge, love and service of the Lord, Jesus Christ.

This All Saints Day, when we witness baptisms and when we hear ourselves repeat our foundational beliefs, take a moment and truly be aware what you are saying. What do we believe about God? What place does God's only son Jesus have in our lives? Do we truly allow the Holy Spirit to guide and direct us?

Let All Saints Day and All Soul's Day remind us to never lose sight of our having touched eternity in our baptisms. It is not to say that it will be easy or painless. I can assure you that at one time or another each of us will experience mind numbing pain and suffering in our lives. It is only when we go through the purifying trials and fires of life all that is worthless will be burned away. It is only on the far side of the sun that we will find that place where the lion and the lamb lie together in peace.

May God continue to richly bless and keep you.

With deepest affection,

Fr. David

Youth Ministry News

Submitted by Rev. Drew Downs

We have kicked-off and are running into a new year! There are a good number of people to thank, specifically the teachers, including Carol Abbot, Kevin Cornell, Stephanie Coté, Claire Turner, and Jaime Williams for making Kickoff Sunday happen. I would also like to thank the parents, grandparents, and others that signed up 27 of our youngest members as well as the young people and adults that enjoyed themselves in support of our Christian Education program.

In all, we have so many reasons to be excited about what is going on now!

- The new year has brought the return of Sunday School for all ages.
- We are looking to explore the youth group that our youth most want—filling the needs that exist and laying the groundwork for a future we want—God willing!
- The adult Bible Study has kicked off between the Sunday services.
- And a whole lot more!

Looking ahead to October, we have a new opportunity that I have been thinking about for a few months. It will be a combination book study and discussion group that will engage writers from different backgrounds that are interested in what it means to be a church and how our *actions* compare with our *beliefs*. The topics will engage both our minds and our souls, and will no doubt challenge the way we see or engage with our church-going life. Perhaps I should include the disclaimer: Not for the meek of heart—or the closed of mind! Called “*Searching for the Dream*,” we will meet **Tuesday, October 16th at 7:00 pm**. Our first book is *The Dream of God: A Call to Return* by Verna J. Dozier (ISBN: 1596280158), which is to be read prior to arrival. Dozier explores how the people of God have separated themselves from God and yet God still wants us. A very easy and spiritually affirming read, the book rewards regardless of your familiarity with the Bible. All are welcome to participate, and I encourage people of all ages to attend—and don’t forget to bring a friend! It may serve as an interesting introduction to our faith or an exploration of a life-long journey!

St. David’s has been exploring the possibility of joining a new area program of justice ministry called ACTION, which is committed to holding the wider community accountable for the

justice within it. This ecumenical group, which runs the gamut from Roman Catholic to Baptist, already includes St. Paul’s downtown and will soon include All Saints East Lansing. ACTION recognizes that despite the overwhelming Biblical call to justice throughout the Bible, we do a poor job of making ourselves responsible for justice in our community. We do a great job at worship, encouragement, and showing mercy (our outreach ministries), but are usually too frightened to share our values of justice and respect with others. We joined six other congregations on September 9th to learn more about ACTION and then participated in the Nehemiah Action on September 24th. Next steps for the group include meeting with the director of ACTION to discuss how St. David’s can best participate, as well as beginning the process for next year’s Nehemiah Action. Please see me or Nancy Howard for more information.

Lastly, I would like to thank the congregation for its patience and encouragement. We will be developing new ministries in the next year, which like anything else, is sure to cause a few growing pains. But through it we are always reminded that God is good!

Peace,

*The Rev. Drew Downs
Curate*

HELP IS NEEDED FOR MOPS

Adapted from Sunday bulletin

Mothers of Pre-Schoolers has been meeting at St. David’s on the first and third Thursdays during the school season for many years. While the moms meet together, their young children are cared for in the nursery and various classrooms. This has been a helpful ministry for these young women and their children. Sessions have begun and **Volunteers are needed** to watch over the little ones. Are you available (and capable) in the morning of the 1st & 3rd Thursday of the month? **Please consider your time and talent for this outreach ministry** and give Lorayne Otto, Childrens Coordinator a call at 688-8149.

SHOPPING EXTRAVAGANZA 2007!

Submitted by Andi Flitton, ECW CoChair

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 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
- Tupperware
- Youth Booth
- ... 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.

Cursillo Is Coming!

Submitted by Kerry Chapin

Weekend #64 is fast approaching; October 18th-21st. What that means is this- Thursday October 18, the team of the 64th weekend of the Western Michigan Episcopal Cursillo will move into our facility and set-up to welcome men and women from our Diocese that have decided they are ready to experience the Cursillo way. St. David's has hosted many of these weekends. We are one of the few parishes in our Diocese that is capable and willing to house a weekend of staff and candidates. Many parishes are smaller but have a neighboring church that is willing to open their doors to help accommodate the weekend needs. In the past, WMEC has even held a weekend in a school just so the hosting parish could hold a

weekend in their area. In case you don't realize how large our Diocese spreads; St. David's is the most eastern parish, west to Lake Michigan, south to the border of Indiana, and north to Beaver Island. Yes, there are Episcopalians in all corners of Western Michigan that have attended a Cursillo Weekend. Cursillo is a wonderful community to be a part of. This Movement is an important strength of the church body throughout the United States (National Episcopal Cursillo). Cursillo being a part of our Community makes a difference in the Christian Community as a whole and the difference in how our parishes grow and hold up in tough times. I would hope that whether you have attended a Cursillo Weekend or not that you would welcome the love of Christ into your heart and the heart of your home parish. If you would like a taste of what this Community is about, I invite you to attend the Grand Ultreya that will be held Saturday November 10 at St. David's. This is a time of praise & worship, thanksgiving & fellowship for the Community as a whole.

*May the Peace of God be with you always.
Kerry C., St. David's Fourth Day Representative*

Canterbury MSU Feast and Auction

Adapted from Sunday Bulletin

Enjoy a relaxed evening out and help C/MSU fulfill its mission. Under the leadership of David and Carol Baker, enjoy a five course meal prepared by all Saint's own chefs. Enjoy a superb meal, good fellowship, and a chance to pick-up a gift or two from the silent auction.

It all takes place in the Undercroft at **All Saint's Episcopal Church** in East Lansing, **October 19**. Tickets are \$30. Contact Barbara VanDyke at St. David's for tickets or if you have items to donate. She can be contacted at 669-2366 or email blvandyke@ameritech.net.

With contributions from All Saints', St. David's, St. Michael's, and St. Paul's, thousands of dollars have been raised for the Canterbury MSU ministry which supports Episcopal student life.

Crop Walk*Adapted from Sunday bulletin**Have you signed up for walking or sponsoring?***October 14** is just around the corner. Sign-up is going on now!

Enjoy a nice walk or jog in beautiful Lansing neighborhoods on a Sunday afternoon or sponsor a walker. There's even a place to rock the time away. Sign-up at St. David's during coffee hour or contact the chairperson, Adam Williams at 719-2322.

Picture time is coming!*Adapted from Sunday Bulletin*

This fall Olan Mills will create a new pictorial member directory for St. David's. Participating families will receive a **FREE 8x10 portrait in addition to the directory**. The photo session will take less than an hour. Immediate viewing of video proofs will be made available, as will specially priced portrait packages for those interested in making a purchase.

Mary Jane Buzzie is chairing this project, with the help of additional volunteers to assist in the process. Anyone interested in lending a helping hand should contact Mary Jane.

It is very important that everyone participate in this project so we can have an updated pictorial directory to help all of us know names and faces of the Families of St. David's.

Dates for photo sessions are :Monday, **Oct. 8** 3pm -9:30pmTuesday, **Oct. 9** 3pm -9:30pmFriday, **Nov. 2** 3pm -9:30pmSaturday, **Nov. 3** 10am -5pm**October Happenings to note:****4** -MOPS 9am**5 -7** -Acolyte Fest in DC**8** -Photo Session #1 begins 3pm**9** -Photo Session #2 begins 3pm**11** -Senior World luncheon 11:15am**13** -ECW Scrapbooking Event 10am-5pm**14** -CROP WALK 1pm**16** -**NEWSLETTER DEADLINE**

-Search for the Dream bookstudy 7pm

18 -MOPS 9am**18-21** - Curisillo Weekend #64**26-28** -Vocare at St. Andrew's, GR**RECRUITING GREETERS FOR 2008***Submitted by: Larry Carey*

Have you ever thought about becoming a greeter at St. David's for either the 8:00 AM or 10:30 AM service? It's a great way to welcome both visitors and members to the church; it only takes a few minutes every couple of months. The schedule can be adjusted for those who spend part of the year elsewhere. If anyone would like to be added to the schedule or desires additional information, please leave a note in my church mailbox: Lar Carey, #61. Alternately, interested individuals may e-mail me at hippie_indian@hotmail.com or give me a jingle (627-6137). Additional greeters for the second service are especially needed.

ATTENTION ALL YOUNG ADULTS!**VOCARE of the Diocese of Western Michigan****IS COMING TO GRAND RAPIDS**

Vocare is a form of a Latin word meaning "to call." The Vocare weekend is a renewal weekend addressed to young adults ages 18-30 in a time when we face many serious decisions that set the direction for much of our adult life.

Come join us at Vocare #11 as we journey on a spiritual renewal weekend where we will seek to discover answers within ourselves and those around us. We will pray, eat, sing laugh and play together!

October 26th -28th, 2007

St. Andrew's Episcopal Church

1025 Three Mile Road NE
Grand Rapids, MI 49505

More information, including registration forms is available at the website,

[HTTP://EDWMVOCARE.GOOGLEPAGES.COM](http://EDWMVOCARE.GOOGLEPAGES.COM)

If interested in attending contact Deacon Drew, Fr. David or Edie for forms and information.

Joshua

It must be fall, I saw **Carol Abbott** busy getting her classroom ready for Sunday School. **Jay and Gloria Bastian** can relax now that **Eric** married **Kelly Tullar** last month. It was a very nice wedding, the bride was beautiful and her flowers were incredible. I hear that **Clarence Burgess** has been moved to Tendercare Nursing Home off of Saginaw. You will have to check with **Fr. David** to be sure that is correct. **Nancy Burns** has been away on vacation but is back working in her and the churches gardens. Thanks for all your work **Nancy!** **Jim and Mary Buzzie** had a busy weekend helping friends move. Have you let **Mary** know what time you want your parish photograph taken? There are still lots of openings. **Dave Byers** helped his son-in-law **Mike** with marketing of his business at a street rod show in Kalamazoo. If you need any Adirondack chairs, **Larry Byers** makes them and has some for sell on his front lawn. They look nice and comfortable. **Larry** also continues to make beautiful flag cases for all Michigan soldiers who lose their lives in the Gulf War. **Ted Cannell** had a heart cath and is home doing well. **Larry Carey** is back at MSU with a new round of students to teach. **Clinton and Shannon Chapin** had a daughter, **Mary Ann Chapin**. Ask **Grammy Kerry** to see photographs. **Ken Cole** has been placed in the VA Home in Grand Rapids. Keep **Ken and Edith** in your prayers. **Gail Donovan's** father has moved into an assisted living home and **Gail** and h family home. The state purchased the er sister have been busy cleaning out the home and will use the space in the expansion of the Blue Water Bridge to Canada. **Fr. Bill and Millie** took off for a weeklong vacation on the east side of the state. Please keep **Teresa Housler's** daughter in your prayers as she has many medical needs at this time. **Francis and Carolyn Jacobs** are home from their trip to North Carolina to the Jan Karon gathering. They visited with many old friends and made new ones. **Carolyn** hurt her back on the trip and appreciates prayers for a full and swift healing. **Pat Johnson's** mother is still recovering and needs our prayers. **Kim Kriek's** dad needs our prayers as he has been in Sparrow. **Steve and Maria Leiby** both road in the DELMAC this past Labor Day and can often be seen peddling around town. **Patrick Lynaugh and Randyll Shook** are home great photos and will share them with you. **Jeff McNeil** needs prayers as he has mono and was just accepted on a hockey team in northern Texas.
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Joshua cont.

Glennis and Bob Muncie are both recovering nicely from their surgeries. It was great seeing **Eileen Newhouse** at the Senior World luncheon last week. **Bob and Edie Nordlund** helped Bob's Uncle Howard celebrate his birthday over in Detroit. **Kay Paff** has been having some health issues and often is tired. She appreciates your prayers. It was great seeing **Kristin Pfauth** in choir when it began. **Kristin and Bobby** have been summering in Grand Haven on their boat. **Aaron and Sharon Phipps** have returned from vacation and look wonderfully relaxed. **Fr. David** has recovered from his blunt eye injury without any trouble. **Patricia Purol** continues to recover from her knee surgery and faces yet another surgery. Please keep her in your prayers. **Dick and Carol Schmidt** are home from their journey south. They had a good time but boy was it hot! **Ben and Mary Stine** have had a rough month with having to do unexpected major repairs to their roof and came home one day to a broken washing machine hose which flooded their home. **Rosemary Tait** continues to volunteer one day a week in the parish office helping **Edie** with long term projects. Thanks for all the hard work **Rosemary. Pat Vine** is home and slowly getting better. She always appreciates a phone call or visit. Have you seen the Memorial Garden? It looks beautiful. Now my family and I have a proper

place to be buried. Enjoy the cooler weather, the delightful days, and the beautiful fall color. My family and I will be busy moving indoors for the cooler weather. See you around the church!

Directory Changes:

M. Monell Grondine
6115 Brookhaven Lane
East Lansing, MI 48823-2216

**Newsletter deadline
for November Edition
Is October 16**

Thinking Ahead:

Important Contact Information

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

Service Schedule:

Sunday: 8am, 10:30am

Wednesday: 6:30pm

Friday: 9am

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
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