

THE GOOD NEWS LETTER

Vol. 9 No. 7

Serving St. David's & St. John's Episcopal Churches

August 2003

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St. David's

Fr. David R. Pike, Rector, Church Box 103
Edith Cole, Secretary, Box 26
Sue Gabel, Administrative Assistant
Dr. Timothy Flynn, Music Director

Vestry

John Strickler, Sr. Warden, Box 134
Jerry Williams, Jr. Warden, Box 115
Steve Leiby, Box 70
Ron Schavey, Box 44
Dawn Sonnenberg, Box 138
Gail Donovan, Box 17
Debbie Davis, Box 28
Tom George, Box 119
John Post, Box 87
Charlotte Byers, Box 71
Bill Paff, Box 118
Jerri Hoffman, Box 24
Amber Matthews, Clerk to the Vestry, Box 167

Newsletter

Ric Sorrell, e-mail: ric@sorrell-family.net, Box 140

St. John's

Rev. Carol A. Spangenberg, Rector
Karen Gin, Secretary
Chris Stapor, Treasurer

Vestry

Ted Dotts, Senior Warden
Will Walker, Junior Warden
Deborah Walker, Secretary
Mary Stafford
Charles Andres
Cara Stapor
Sandra Garrison
Stephen Stofflet
Alma Stahl
Brett McRae
Karen Steiner

St. David's Episcopal Church

1519 Elmwood Road
Lansing, MI 48917
Telephone: 517-323-2272
Fax: 517-323-2830
E-mail: stdavids1962@aol.com
Web: www.forministry.com/48917sdec

Service Schedule

Sunday: 8:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.
Wednesday 6:30 p.m.
Friday 7:00 a.m.

St. John's Episcopal Church

201 W. Shepherd Street
Charlotte, MI 48813
Telephone: 517-543-4430
Fax: 517-543-2315 (Church)
517-327-1839 (Rev. Carol)
E-mail: stjohsepiscopalchurch201@yahoo.com
Web: www.e-deanery.com/stjohns

Service Schedule

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

A second year experience in EFM

By Francis L. Jacobs

In last month's newsletter article on the Education For Ministry (EFM) class, Gerry Purol shared the experiences of a first year student. As a second year student, I completely agree with Gerry. There are people in the class with "different heritages and backgrounds, each approach with different highlights, and all shining stars." At the start of the second year of class, I have learned how Fr. David, Fr. Jerry and Fr. Bill, or any priest, develops and presents their "Sunday Sermon". This process may have a different name in a college seminary, but in the EFM class we call it "a Theological Reflection". As for the biblical study, second year students study the books of the New Testament. The class is educated in the New Testament by studying and reading the biblical commentaries on the Gospels (the ministry of Jesus), Acts of the Apostles, the Pauline letters and the Pastoral Epistles. This also includes the Letters of James, Jude and Peter,

along with the Johannine Letters, the Revelation of John, and finally what I call the "Sermon of the Hebrews"(The Book of Hebrews). Study also includes the reading of different biblical commentaries on the theories of the Synoptic Gospels, the different writing styles of the letters of the New Testament (including Robert Bailey's "The structure of Paul's Letters").

In previous newsletter articles, I shared the difference between seminary and the EFM class. In seminary you are in "residence at a college ". At St. David's for the EFM class, you study at home and at church. When you finish the class each year, you do earn college (continuing education) credits from the University of the South at Sewanee, Tennessee. This is an Episcopal College along with seminary. ✠



2003-04 academic calendar year will begin
on
Sunday, August 24th at 1:30 p.m.
at St. David's Episcopal Church

Information on the class contact: Barbara Van Dyke (517) 699-2366
or Francis L. Jacobs (517) 622-1983

Reverend Carol's message

Take God On Vacation With You

When we go on vacation we often head out with our list of necessities such as: the suit cases, the pop in the cooler, the maps, and list of phone numbers we might need, and address so we can mail the post cards,(which we will probably beat home), the dates and names of motels etc. where we are to spend our time, and of course the game boys and things for the kids to do in the car. All of this is carefully packed and put within easy reach inside the car. We leave in time to meet the check-in time at our first motel and keep this schedule for most of othe trip. However, do we do the same for our spiritual lives on vacation as well? Do we look up where we can go to church, where in the city the church is in relationship to the motel we are staying? and what about packing clothes for church, and did we pack our Bibles and Prayer Books, and do we have a list of readings so if there doesn't happen to be a church near where we are going to be, we can at least say Morning Prayer with the family before we start off on

another Sunday? Are we conscious at all about our need to have God with us on our vacation? Do we plan to put God in our vacation at all? And if so, is it deliberate?

We tend to make very formal plans to go on vacation, even when camping, but we don't, on a whole, plan God in it as we do the motel or the tickets to the amusement park. Can we change this a little? can we all begin to plan so that we can put God into our vacation in a very clear and deliberate way, so that our lives reflect our faith and our devotion to our Lord and Savior. May we all have a safe and very blessed time this summer, and may we put God into everything we do!!!

Happy Trails to You All,
God's Blessings be upon you,
Rev. Carol

News from Carol's Corner

Just to remind you all. Rev. Carol is on vacation till August 14th. There will be NO Wednesday night services during this time. We will have services on Sunday Morning at 9:30am as usual.

We need people to help with our Wednesday afternoon Christian Education Classes. I you can help I would really appreciate your contacting me at 321-0512. We also need persons to help with our Sunday School and if you can help here please contact me as well. Many thanks for praying and thinking about serving our young people.

Our Bible Study will not meet again till August 14th at Mary Stafford's house. Please plan on joining us. We meet at 3:45 each Thursday afternoon.

We are still looking for an organist, if you know of anyone who might be interested please let me or Steve Strofflet know so we can contact them.

We need families or individuals to help with Coffee Hours, please contact Alma Stahl if you can help. 517-663-3450

HAVE A GREAT SUMMER!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

St. David's Secret Pal update

By Carolyn Jacobs

I felt it might be a good idea to put together a letter to voice my concerns about our gathering. I have had quite a few women come to me and say they were not receiving gifts. It is almost getting too numerous to call each one and try to correct problems. I am concerned when I hear that someone has only received one gift since our party. We are halfway through the year and there have been at least three major holidays (St. Patrick's Day, Easter, and Mother's Day). That is not counting anniversaries or birthdays that may fall in that time frame. To me it is a given that if you are receiving gifts on a regular basis that you would be thinking of your pal in the same way and at least giving them a card or letting them know you are thinking of them in some way.

If you have any questions or have lost your slip, please let me know and we will correct it. We have also shifted a bit since the passing of Marie Warren so things will change slightly.

Please prayerfully keep this in mind. Most everyone is very good but I am just sending out a reminder to everyone to be a thoughtful Secret Pal so that everyone can feel good about this experience.

God Bless

Church bulletin bloopers

By Tom George, *Building and Grounds*

HELP WANTED: We are being invaded by little green aliens. Myrtle's bed and other areas of the grounds are being infested with these little critters. Please stop by St. David's and take a few minutes to pull out these weeds and put an end to their propagation. This little project can benefit you by providing soul food because you can meditate while pulling the weeds.

I have been assigned Buildings and Grounds and I don't have a problem with the building but I tend to have a long standing aversion to working on grounds. If anyone has any concerns about the Building and Grounds please let me know. I am developing a list of items that need attention and will be contacting those individuals who have expressed an interest in helping out. God Bless all of you and thank you for your help.

St. David's August Birthdays

1	Art VanDyke
2	Jean Dooley
3	Sandra Kinney
3	David Wils
5	Jim Hosmer
7	David Transeth
8	Elaine Tolsma
9	Mildred McNeil
10	Dan VanNeste
12	Madison Albert
13	Korey Knapp
14	Pat Thurston
15	Norma Hammond
16	Jamie Stiles
17	Andi Flitton
17	Pat Johnson
18	Kelsey Lovejoy
18	Peg Spitler
20	Richard Martzke
21	Leo Thrall
22	Clarence Burgess
23	Barb Underhill
25	Nancy Howard
28	Norma Bunday
28	Paddy Donovan
30	Brano Kasper

August Anniversaries

1	Dan & Sarah Ostrom
3	Tom & Mary Taylor
3	Eric & Geri Root
5	Jim & Pat Thurston
7	Larry & Delores Lindstrom
12	Eric & Jessica Menold
12	Charles & Louise Henley
14	Barb & Ed Galvin
17	Paul & Jana Kennedy
19	Gordon & Charla-Fay Smith
20	Jim & Jean Dooley
22	Mike & Debra Benoit
23	Fred & Norma Bunday
23	Steven & Carole Leigh
28	Mark & Laura McNeil
29	Jim & Julie Combs
30	Ken & Edith Cole
30	Ross & Jane Hill
31	Jim & Diane Kent

Planning For Father David's Sabbatical Has Begun!

By Gail Donovan

You may have heard some talk or saw a note in the vestry minutes at some time during the past 18 months regarding discussion of a sabbatical for Father David. The vestry authorized Father David to appoint a planning committee several months ago. The committee members are Chairman Gail Donovan, Larry Carey, Kay Paff, John Strickler, and Father David. We have held two meetings and the planning process has begun in earnest. There will be an article in the monthly Newsletter to inform you of our progress and to answer questions. We expect the congregation will have many of the same questions and concerns we have and we will hopefully answer all of them for you in the next several months. This month's topic is "What is a Sabbatical?"

Prior to our second meeting, we all read the book Clergy Renewal, The Alban Guide to Sabbatical Planning by A. Richard Bullock and Richard J. Bruesehoff, published by The Alban Institute. This is one of the resources we will be utilizing in the planning process. We had all heard of people taking sabbaticals, but the book was helpful in clarifying what a sabbatical is and is not. The following is a very brief discussion of sabbatical leave misconceptions (my own and those of friends) and some facts and thoughts from the book that I found most helpful for my own understanding.

When most people hear the term "sabbatical", they think of someone in the academic community taking time off from teaching to study and write a book. Anyone else on sabbatical is usually thought of as off on a glorified vacation. In fact, the word *sabbatical* comes from the Hebrew word *sabbat* and is related to several biblical practices. The practice we can still most readily relate to in our busy, modern-day lives, is the Sabbath day, the seventh day when God rested. Granted, many of us are as busy on the Sabbath day as we are any other day of the week, but sabbath in biblical

times meant, among other things, a period to refresh and renew. Sabbaticals came to be commonly associated with academics because many universities were established by churches. Sabbatical time was time to study, pray, and meditate. More recently, sabbaticals have become common in the corporate world as a time for self-assessment and community or government service. Not vacation time. As the title of the book indicates, a sabbatical is a time of renewal for clergy. It can be a time of extended study leave, an opportunity to contemplate ones ministry and renew and refresh the vision of that ministry away from the demands of the job, and a time to be nurtured instead of nurture to others. These are all objectives of the sabbatical we are planning with and for Father David.

Next month's article will include a discussion of why we as a congregation should want our priest to have a sabbatical. Future articles will include what to expect while Father David is gone, who will do everything, financing the leave, the itinerary, timetables, and more. Leave a note in our mail boxes if you have questions or comments you want us to discuss in our meetings. Please remember that we are still in the early planning stages and are not in a position to answer all questions yet. But in answer to every ones first question, we are looking at mid-2004 for approximately four to five months leave.

Thanks from Eileen

Thank you my friends at St. David's for your most loving support of our Altar Flower fund the past twenty years. I loved making the flower arrangements for our Altar. However, it was time for me to give up some of my volunteer commitments.

Please continue your support. I know we will all enjoy the beautiful arrangements our new designer will make for us.

Eileen Newhouse

Grace of Giving Program for St. David's

by Jerry Williams

A few months ago, I asked for volunteers to help form a stewardship committee. I'm happy to report that volunteers have responded and a committee is now in place and hard at work. Members are: Dave Byers, Sue Kohler, Jim Thurston, Dianne Ulibarri, Carol and me. At the committee's first meeting in June, we discussed the responsibilities of the committee, objectives for 2003-2004 and work needing to be done by our next meeting in August.

We also decided to develop a vision for stewardship at St. David's to guide all our future efforts. Of the 99 references in the Bible to money, wealth, treasure and giving, we chose, with the help of the Holy Spirit, St. Paul's call to the Corinthians **"to excel in the grace of giving"** (2Cor 8:7). We then discussed various aspects of this theme, the grace of giving, focusing on our belief that all our giving to God should be a loving response to Him who gives us everything. In the end, we adopted the following draft vision statement:

To build on its strong history of helping others, St David's community will strive to excel in the grace of giving.

In addition, we adopted the title "Grace of Giving Program" and renamed ourselves the Grace of Giving Committee.

We also see a very close relationship between the congregation's level of giving of time, talent and treasure and the many ministries that have developed and flourished at St. David's. We agreed that all aspects of the Grace of Giving program will emphasize this relationship. The program will also feature year-round educational activities in the form of articles, Sunday Bulletin inserts, classes on God's principles for giving and materials suitable for Sunday School. Finally the program will try to provide several different forms of giving—including traditional pledges, opportunities for special, one-of-a-kind giving, and giving through endowments and estates.

Our work has just begun and much remains to be done. If you would like to participate or just like to give us your thoughts, please contact me or any of the committee members. ☩

St. David's Christian Ed notes

By Debbie Davis

We are looking for someone to teach this fall for the 3rd-5th grade Sunday School class. Please contact me at 886-5210.

Vacation Bible School starts Sunday, August 3rd through Thursday, August 7th from 6:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.. The kids have a great time so don't miss out on this great adventure! ☩

The Outreach Corner

By Andi Flitton

August is the month that we collect clothing for children for school. I will have a box in the Narthex for Gently Used (clean, no holes, spots, etc.) and new items. You may bring them to church the first three weeks of August. The sizes that are needed are 4-16. We will be collecting used coats later (October), so please save them till then. You may also make a donation for the clothing if you would rather make your check payable to St. David's Episcopal Church, and in the note portion indicate that it is for Clothe a Child (Outreach).

Just a reminder that the date for Serving dinner at the Rescue Mission for August is the 19th. Please contact either Andrea Flitton (321-2219), or Jerry Williams (882-4142) if you would like to help. This is a very rewarding experience, and can be a family project (for families with children over age 10). ☩

Thank you to all of the ladies and the gentlemen who helped us with the luncheon for Marie Warren's family. If you brought food, it was delicious, and it was appreciated by everyone -- Thank you! If you helped in the Kitchen -- Thank you! If you helped set up or take down tables -- Thank you! We could not have done this without your help!

The Prayer Chain

By Barbara Wegener

Prayers for families and friends are an important Ministry for God and for the Prayer Chain Members.

We all have seen what miracles and healing can happen when the Prayer Chain members pray in concert.

The Prayer Chain prays for, as examples, healing, mind and/or body, protection, events, thanksgivings, stress and many more.

We have a few guidelines if you want to add someone for us to pray for:

- First name and last initial of the party for whom you wish us to pray. This helps us keep straight the many Bobs, Carol's etc.
- The maximum time we pray for each person is four weeks, unless you indicate a longer time for us to pray. An example would be traveling, people who commute to work everyday we would leave on until retirement or we are asked to remove said name. Another example is a person in a nursing home; they would stay on the chain until they come home.
- All prayer requests noted "keep confidential" are kept confidential by the Prayer Chairperson even if I have to use a fictitious name for the prayer chain members. This is a Ministry, not a gossip circle.

We now have a Calling circle and an email circle for the ease of getting information to the Prayer Chain members. The Prayer Chain is a Ministry for the young and old alike, working or retired persons; it is an intensely personal relationship between each of us and God. Should you feel that this might be a Ministry for you please contact me at 517-372-1696 or email me at bwegener@msn.com. You can also give your name to Father David or Sue Gable and they will contact me. ✕

Communications report

By Jerri Hoffman, Communications Chair

Five radio stations have agreed to offer free announcements on their stations for St. David's social and educational events. Eight hotels and motels have St. David's on their list of churches to attend. Four of them welcome posters of coming events to be placed in their lobby.

Great Lakes Christian College welcomes any information about social and educational activities at St. David's and posters are welcome.

Michigan State University will fax or e-mail social and educational events at St. David's to all Episcopal churches in the Lansing area and to all M.S.U. Episcopal students.

Eight assisted living and retirement residences were contacted and all were happy to receive dates and times of events at St. David's. All of these facilities also provide transportation.

The Lansing State Journal will announce our events for free as will six or seven other Lansing Community newspapers.

As of this writing, 11 churches were contacted to ask permission to send a fax about music and social events at St. David's. We also asked if we could provide and insert in their newsletter and bulletin to announce these events. So far, all were happy to do so.

The deadlines for the radio station announcements is two weeks prior to the event. The newspapers require 10 days to two weeks. Articles for *The Good News Letter* are due by the 20th of each month. These deadlines will be met with or without the required copy.

SAVE THE DATE! The Lansing area CROP WALK will take place on October 12th. St. David's is looking for new walkers. Find a buddy and join us!

Maria Leiby, CROP WALK Chair

St. David's Episcopal Church
1519 Elmwood Drive
Lansing, MI 48917

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U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
LANSING, MI
PERMIT NO. 625



Calling all youth!!

St. David's VBS
August 3-7 from 6:00-8:30 p.m.

Cost is free!!

Please see the insert for additional information.

Reflections of Father David

One of the ways I keep my diabetes under control is by daily exercise and carefully watching my diet. I do lots of different things in the way of exercise. We have an exercise bike in the basement which I ride as I watch Good Morning America. We have a Bowflex system that I use every other day. One of the ways of exercising I enjoy most is simply walking. When the weather is nice (cool and not humid) I walk outside. When it is hot or the sidewalks are slippery I walk the mall. Right now I do my walking in the mall.

One of the reasons I enjoy walking in the mall is that there is so much to see. Naturally there are the ever-changing store window displays. Each shop puts forth what they sell in creative and wonderful ways. While the mall was being updated it was great watching the daily changes of color and style. I love the Frank Lloyd Wright / Mission style chosen. Perhaps most enjoyable while walking is simply watching the people.

There is Ernie, slowly walking with his walker, obviously recovering from a stroke and working hard at building up his strength and ability to walk. He is welcomed by many of the mall regulars. There are the two African American women, sisters it would appear, who very much enjoy walking together and talking about family and jobs. There is the grandfatherly man and his middle-aged son who slowly make their circuit of the mall, simply enjoying each others company, speaking very little. There is the group of six women who walk together in a bunch and afterwards enjoy coffee in the food court. In some ways I feel this is what small town, early Christian communities were like. There truly is not much difference from the marketplace and

the mall and the everyday community at both.

As I walk and watch, I also pray. I give thanks to God for the many blessings I enjoy. I pray for people on the prayer chain and parish sick list. I pray for parishioners getting ready for or recovering from surgery. I pray for the total strangers around me, like Ernie, the sisters, the father and son, the women.

Some mornings I reflect on the Bible readings for the day. Other days find me mentally working on Sundays sermon. It feels good attending to physical, spiritual and emotional well being all at one time.

God calls us to be his special people. He asks that we take care of ourselves, physically, mentally, emotionally and spiritually. Too often we neglect some aspect of our needs and then wonder why our lives are out of balance. When there is a change in our routine, it is very easy to drop what we know is necessary to our well-being. Summer vacation is often a prime example of that reality in our lives.

This summer, use this time to try new routines that build up your physical, emotional, mental and spiritual being. Try something different that perhaps you wouldn't have time to do during the hectic school year. By starting now, once the busy fall season gets under way your changes will be part of an established routine and you will be ready for it.

May God always bless and keep you.

With deepest affection,
Fr. David

The Church Mouse heard ...

Fred Bunday has settled in well at Nottingham Place by Runaway Bay. He enjoys company and you are welcome to visit him there. **Mary Jane Buzzie** and **Mary Hill** are happy to report that Mary's son Terry is mending and wish to thank you for your prayers and support. **Dave** and **Janie Byers** are happy to report that all their new grand children are healthy and growing daily. **Larry Carey** was pleased to have one of his cars in an area car show and received an award for it. Speaking of car shows, **John Bechtel's** Corvette was on display on Washington Square. **Mike** and **Sandy Vaughn** had two cars on display was well. **Ken** and **Edith Cole** took a trip out to New York to see Chris, Beth and the grandchildren. All are doing well and enjoyed having Grandma and Grandpa there. **Stephanie Cote** was a Sr. Staff Counselor at the Diocesan Youth Camp during Munchkin Week. **Deb Davis** and **Nan Strickler** are busy getting VBS organized. **Tami Varricchio** and **Hortencia Reynaga** are busy painting the scenery. **Gail Donovan** had an enjoyable cruise in the Caribbean. **Karon Ellis** continues to recover from health problems and requests continued prayers. **Tim Flynn** spent an enjoyable weekend in Chicago visiting with friends. Thanks to **Dave Horka** who filled in while Tim was gone. **Betty Jean Frost** had a wonderful time in Europe with her sister. **Sue** and **Bill Gabel** spent a quiet time celebrating their 24th Anniversary. **Fay Gilman** is doing much better and is back in her pew at the 8 am Sunday service. It is great seeing her there again. **Amy Graves** fell and broke several bones in her foot and

will be on crutches for some time. **Mike** and **Pat Johnson's** son Jeff had some health problems but is doing better now. **Cash Kiebler** had minor surgery and is recovering well. **Steve** and **Carol Leigh** purchased a new home west of Lansing on the Grand River and will soon be moving. **Rose McNab** is settling into her new apartment at Ivan Woods behind Meijer. **Bob** and **Glennis Muncie** have spent lots of time at the cottage up north visiting with family. **Dick** and **Lorayne Otto** have enjoyed having **Peg Spitler** and her son Justin visiting at their cottage on Lake Michigan. **Bill** and **Kay Paff** are happy to announce that their son Brian is engaged to Courtney, whom he met at Grand Valley. Thanks to Kay and Bill for the excellent job of the 3rd of July picnic on the Rectory lawn. The food was great! **Fr. David** and **Nancy** enjoyed a quiet week in Leland at the cottage they use each summer. It was the first time they went up there without **Jennifer** and **Andrew**. **John** and **Barb Post** are home again after some problems with their car during a trip south. They made the conference but cut other plans short. **Pat** and **Gerry Purol** are working hard with the MSU Master Gardeners Class in making the church grounds look better than ever in the past. **Rita Stanton** is recovering well from surgery. **Meda Thrall** is slowly recovering from back problems. Please keep **Glynn Warren** and his daughter **Diane Brabon** and her family in your prayers with the recent loss of **Marie**. Marie will be greatly missed by everyone at St. David's who knew and loved her. Have a great summer!!

Changes at St. David's

With life comes change; this has been happening at St. David's lately. Due to health problems, Pat Vine has been forced to step down from many roles that she has held faithfully for many, many years. The Prayer Chain will now be handled by Barb Wegener (372-1696). Funeral Luncheons will be handled by Nancy George (627-7226). The Outreach Committee will handle those parts covered by Pat in the past. Ken Donovan has stepped down as head of Ushers and that position has been filled by Francis Jacobs. Nan Strickler has stepped down as Director of Christian Education and that position has been filled by Deb Davis. While on the subject, if you would like to be part of the Prayer Chair, the Outreach Committee, the Buildings and Grounds Committee, Ushers, Christian Education, Choir, Vacation Bible School or any other ministry at St. David's, don't hesitate to make your wish to serve known. If you don't know who to contact, see Fr. David or the Parish Office Staff and they will see that you are put in touch with the appropriate people.

St. David's Episcopal Church
Vestry Minutes
July 15, 2003

Vestry in Attendance: Deb Davis, Charlotte Byers, Jerry Williams, John Strickler, John Post, Dawn Sonnenberg, Tom George, Craig Leinbach, Gail Donovan, Steve Leiby, Jerri Hoffman

Not in Attendance: Ron Schavey, Bill Paff

Meeting opened with prayer at 7:10pm

Secretary's Report: Motion to approve by Jerry Williams, seconded Steve Leiby. Approved.

Treasurer's Report: Craig didn't have a report to give because he couldn't locate files needed. Jerry Williams asked about the auditor that was at Sunday's service. Craig indicated that she was doing a report on how the money is counted, received and deposited. (The income side) Nothing further.

Rector's Report: Fr. David handed out information sheet for vestry review. Steve Leiby asked about the decline in 10:30am service attendance. Fr. David indicated that numbers decline in summer months due to no Sunday school, members on vacations, and more people attend service at 8:00am because it's the cooler part of the day. Motion to accept Fr. David's report by Jerry Williams, seconded by Jerri Hoffman.

Senior Warden's Report: Nothing from John Strickler.

Junior Warden's Report: Jerry Williams reported about the auditor at Sunday service 7-13-03. She was watching the counting of the offerings. Also, Jerry asked about the survey results that were written in the last newsletter. He wanted to know if the vestry was in agreement with the writing. Fr. David asked what the vestry would like to do to continue with these results. Fr. David indicated that he would ask members to work in detail on following up with the continuance of the results and action could be taken to put these results in effect. Nothing further.

Areas of Ministry

Buildings and Grounds: Tom George reported that the vacuum sweeper was repaired because the motor was seized up. Tom made up a list of repairs and work that needs to be done around the church and rectory. Vestry reviewed and needs to prioritize the items. Tom purchased a light to place at the end of the driveway to replace the one that was broken during the winter. Motion to re-imburse Tom George for expenses occurred for the vacuum and the lights, seconded by Charlotte Byers. Approved. John Strickler asked if there are items that need to be done quickly. Tom indicated that some lights needed to be replaced. (Fluorescent fixtures – Northeast hall, choir office, sacristy) Motion by John Strickler to use \$150.00 of memorial funds to replace light fixtures but the total for all the lights would be \$390.00. So the remaining taken from church funds was also included with this, seconded by Dawn Sonnenberg. Approved. Discussion also took place regarding the kitchen flooring in the rectory and renovation of the bathroom. Jerry Williams is asking for estimates on kitchen floor, carpet and renovation of the bathroom before decisions can be made. Tom George indicated he would work on this and discuss further in later meetings. John Post asked Fr. David to look into more handicap parking outside the church. Fr. David indicated that it would be done shortly.

Memorials: Nothing from John Strickler.

Stewardship: Jerry Williams reported on the status of his "Stewardship Statement of the Rector and Vestry" proposal that was reported on at last meeting. He indicated that he would have a final draft for the vestry in September but he handed out a rough draft for the vestry to look over. The vestry said that the draft that was presented was acceptable and they indicated that they would approve and sign it now. Motion made by John Post to approve and sign the Stewardship Statement of the Rector and Vestry document, seconded by John Strickler. Approved. Document was passed around and signed. Jerry Williams indicated that when the Stewardship Committee reviews the document, that there wouldn't be any big changes to the document after the review.

Communications: Jerri Hoffman reported that she contact several local medias asking about promoting St. David's events. Five radio stations indicated that they give free announcements on public activities, churches were contacted to list events, hotels/motels contacted, colleges, etc. Jerri asked if an ad could be placed in other local newspapers for \$10.00 per week. John Strickler thought it was a good idea to expand the advertisement to the Grand Ledge Independent for the additional \$10.00 per week. But first, Fr. David is going to contact the Episcopal Church in Grand Ledge to see if it was okay for St. David's to advertise in Grand Ledge paper. Vestry felt that it was proper to check with Grand Ledge church before advertising in their community. This to be continued at the next meeting. Jerri asked about the Life Screening flyer that was in the July newsletter. Jerri asked if it would be beneficial to ask the radio stations and newspapers to promote this event at St. David's. Vestry didn't seem to be in favor to promote this activity this way. Vestry believes that it's up to the company giving the Life Health Screening event, not St. David's.

Long Distance Service: Jerri Hoffman looked into a variety of phone services to save the church money on long distance service. Six companies were checked into and a report was given to vestry. Vestry asked to see an actual long distance bill from AT&T and not the regular phone service bill from SBC. The regular service is not being discussed, just long distance service. An AT &T bill was retrieved from the office by Craig and Gail Donovan reviewed the bill. Gail indicated that the existing long distance service was not being used a lot and if service was changed to the new company ACCXX (Access), the church would probably only save a few dollars. Vestry seems to think that a lot of the costs are just fees to have the lines. John Post asked Gail Donovan to look into this further because she seemed to know about this and she would compare and figure out the savings, if any. Further review to take place before decision can be made. Nothing further.

Renewal and Evangelism: John Post reported on the letters he sent out to various church members asking for help on the R & E committee. He will see if there are interested parties at his meeting coming up.

Outreach: Charlotte Byers indicated that the next outreach meeting in August 18. She indicated that she worked at the Lugnuts game on July 4 and will work again on July 23. This event that she participates in is for the rescue mission and the hourly wage for her hours worked are donated to the rescue mission.

New Persons: Steve Leiby indicated that he is going to meet with John Post to have John help him get started with the committee plans.

Fellowship: Gail Donovan indicated that picnic was a success. Reminder about the canoeing trip. ECW needs to be evaluated on getting new people trained and to fill various positions that are coming available. Gail stressed the importance of getting new people to help on the fellowship committee – if you are interested in helping out, please contact Gail Donovan.

Christian Education: Deb Davis reported that VBS plans and preparation are underway. A lot of people helping and anyone else interested in helping are invited. VBS is August 3-7 6:00pm to 8:30pm Also, Deb is in need of a 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade Sunday school teacher in the fall.

Lay Ministry: Dawn Sonnenberg had nothing to report.

Old Business

Rector's Sabbatical: Meeting was held. Next meeting July 16 at 7:15pm. Gail Donovan is the committee chair. Plans are underway.

FYI – John Post purchased four umbrellas placed at each door for the members to use. The umbrellas are labeled with “Property of St. David’s” so will get returned to the church with ease.

Defibrulators are have been ordered. They will be delivered in August and in September there will be a training session on how to use the machines. Please watch newsletter if interested in learning how to use the machines.

New Business

Pat Purol is requesting grant money to attend women’s Episcopal convention that is held every three years. ECW Triennial Conference – She is requesting financial help because the cost would total \$2000 to attend. Vestry was not in favor of approving financial support for Pat because money hasn’t be set aside for this event. Discussion that maybe re-imburement of some expenders could be made at a later date, but nothing approved at this point. Vestry suggested that maybe a fundraiser could be done to help raise money for this event. Since it is every three years, money could be saved for members to attend.

Follow-up to Bishop Gepert’s Letter: Last meeting, discussion took place on giving to financial support to severely limited funds of these churches. Further discussion at July meeting and vestry indicated that they aren’t able to help in the 2003 budget due to the increase in contribution to the diocese this year. Vestry would look to into giving financial support in the 2004 budget.

Next meeting is September 16, 2003. No meeting in August.

FYI – Craig would like next year’s budget started to correlate with the ministry portfolios.

Adjournment at 9:42pm

Submitted by
Amber Matthews, Clerk to Vestry