



Saint David's News

<http://www.saintdavidsgf.org/>
 860 464-6516 • StDavidsGF@aol.com

Gales Ferry, Connecticut-----An Episcopal Church founded in 1963 -----Feb. 2010

Dates for Your Calendar

February 1 - 23		Fr. Chuck on vacation
February 16	5:30 pm	Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper
February 17		Ash Wednesday (services at 7 am, 9:30 am, & 7 pm)
February 21		* First Sunday in Lent ~ Lenten Outreach Project begins
February 22	7:00 pm	Outreach Team Meeting
February 23	4:30 pm	* Community Services Dinner (New London)
February 24	6:00 pm	* Soup and Lenten Study begins (meets every Wednesday in Lent)
February 26 - 27		Vestry Retreat (Camp Wightman)
February 28		St. David's Day (donation cards available by Flower Chart) * Luncheon and Family Talent Show (immediately following the 10:15 am service)
March 9	7:15 pm	Vestry Meeting
March 19 - 21		SE Emmaus Weekend #11 (at Saint David's!)

** read more about this event in this newsletter*

 Stay **REALLY** current! Check the announcements section of the parish web page -
<http://www.saintdavidsgf.org/>

Women's Group 6:30 am on Tuesdays (1st & 3rd)
 Men's Group 7:00 am on Wednesdays
 Holy Eucharist & Healing Service 9:30 am on Wednesdays
 Women's Study 10:30 am on Wednesdays
 Adult Choir 7:00 pm on Thursdays
 Glory Ringers 4:30 pm Fridays
 Divine Ringers 12:20 pm on Sundays
 Joyful Bells 5:30 on Sundays
 Chamber Bells 6:30 pm on Sundays

January Average Sunday Attendance: 173 January pledges: \$22,382. actual / \$23,300. budget January plate: \$846.80 actual / \$1,300. budget Building Fund rec'd in January: \$10,927.54

From guest editor, Sandi Brown

A Call to Silence...A Call to Self-examination...A Call to Repentance

A Call to Lent

"I invite you, therefore, in the name of the Church, to the observance of a holy Lent, by self-examination and repentance; by prayer, fasting, and self-denial; and by reading and meditating on God's holy Word." (BCP pg. 265)

We are human and we are not perfect. If we were perfect, we probably wouldn't need to observe Lent. Saturated with our own pain and self-righteousness, we hurt one another...we act carelessly; forgetting that we are called to be instruments of His peace and not instruments of Satan's destruction. Lent provides a quiet time for us to examine the log in our own eye and to stop worrying about and pointing out the speck in our brother's eye.

How do we slow down and renew our efforts to reconcile our lives to the perfect example of Love and service that the Son of God was sent to show us?

.....

Maybe by prayer...

Ash Wednesday Services with Imposition of Ashes

Wednesday, February 17th

(celebrated by the Rev. Canon David L. Cannon)

7:00 am ~ 9:30 am ~ 7:00 pm (with music)

.....

Maybe by study...

Soup and Lenten Study (taught by Fr. Chuck)

Beginning Wednesday, February 24th, at 6:00 pm, the study will meet every Wednesday in Lent, concluding on March 31st. The evening begins with fellowship as we share soup and bread (doesn't count as fasting, especially if Al Schober brings his homemade raisin bread). Study begins at 6:45 pm and the evening ends in worship with the service of Compline at 7:50 pm. Sign-ups to bring soup and bread will be available soon.

.....

Maybe by service...

Lenten Outreach Project 2010

... for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me. (Matthew 25:35-36)

This Lent following Jesus' teachings, please help us support with prayer and material goods, these following five agencies. We hope that you and your children will participate together and make a difference in many lives. Bring a donation every Sunday in Lent or on as many Sundays as you are called to.

If you have any questions about any of the agencies or the project, please call Sandi Brown, 860.464.9729.

<u>Sunday</u>	<u>Agency</u>	<u>Collection</u>
February 21st	St. Vincent de Paul's Place	Tuna & Peanut Butter
1 Lent	<i>I was hungry</i>	(please, no glass jars)

Lenten Outreach Project (continued)

February 28th	*Fleet Reserve Assoc.	Wet wipes, lip balm, sun block, hard candy,
2 Lent	<i>I was a stranger</i>	chewing gum, beef jerky, baby or foot powder, nuts
	* collecting items for deployed U.S. Military personnel	
March 7th	<i>malta, inc.</i>	Underwear, work boots,
3 Lent	<i>I was naked</i>	jeans (size 34 & up), socks
March 14th	Martin House	Pillows, twin blankets or
4 Lent	<i>I was sick</i>	sheets, towel sets,
		cleaning supplies
March 21st	York Correctional	Sponsor a Bible (\$20. gift)
5 Lent	<i>I was in prison</i>	

'Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.'
(Matthew 25:45)

.....

With God's grace, may you answer the call to a holy Lent. May you identify your sins, nail them to the Good Friday cross, and seek repentance; so that He can create in you a new heart and that you can be brought with all the saints to the joy of His resurrection.



From Pete Landolt

Saint David's Directory

There are still copies available of the Pictorial Directory, and if you need one see Pam in the Parish Office. If you like, we accept a \$5.00 donation to pay for printing. The first revision to the Directory will be published within the next few months. If there are any errors in your listing, or if you would prefer a newer picture than the one in the booklet, contact Pete Landolt (860-536-6487).

Gathering Group

Now that we have an assigned meeting place in the Library, the Gathering Group is getting back into full swing on Sunday mornings. We meet from 9:15 to 10:05, between services, and usually have lively discussion of current events or whatever people want to talk about. We are working on some specific discussion topics of interest to the group and will welcome your ideas, especially those with a religious overtone to our Christian life. The Gathering Group is an ideal forum for meeting parishioners whom you don't know well or haven't yet met. We especially welcome newcomers to Saint David's; let us help you get integrated into our parish family. If you have any questions about the Group, contact Pete or Judy Landolt (860-536-6487).

From the Senior Warden, Steve Forbes

Vestry Highlights from January, 2010

At the regular January meeting, the vestry voted to place the \$5,000 gift, received from Bishop Smith during the January 10th dedication of our new building, into the Furnishing Fund. We also authorized a reimbursement of up to \$100 to cover the expense of preparing an appetizer for Bishop Smith's farewell reception on February 28th. The other big item for that meeting was reviewing the 2010 spending plan. During this meeting the total budget was reviewed. Adjustments were made, which included transferring \$5,000 of the 2009 surplus into the Capital Reserve account. In order to give the vestry time to understand the total budget and the recommended changes, the vestry agreed to meet again on Sunday January 17. At this brief meeting between services we voted to accept the 2010 budget that was presented to the congregation at the Annual meeting on January 31.

At the Annual meeting on January 31, thanks were offered to the many people who have helped to support St David's during the year by serving on the vestry, building committee, and many other organizations that make up the body of St David's. During the discussion about the status of the Capital Campaign, it was noted that we anticipate a shortfall of at least \$338,000. During the ensuing discussion, a motion was made and passed to direct the Capital Campaign Committee to develop a plan that addresses how we are going to pay off the outstanding debt. The plan is to be presented to the parish no later than October 1, 2010.



From Allan Dierman

Trip to Ecuador

Last November the Bishop of Ecuador, the Rt. Rev'd Louis Fernando Ruiz, sent a letter to Ann Cady, the dean of the Seabury Deanery, inviting representatives down for their annual convention. This significant gesture shows great support for our mission work in Ecuador.

This month four members of the deanery will be attending the convention. Three of them are from our very church, Ann Cady, Linda and Allan Dierman. With great anticipation of following God's grace, we look forward to bringing back exciting news. Look for much more details in next month's newsletter.



From Pete Hall

Community Services Dinner at the New London Community Meals Center

The Saint David's Community Services Dinner program is fortunate to have a surplus of capable Saint David's volunteer servers. Sometimes they have to take turns on alternate months. I encourage anyone who hasn't been to the meal center on Montauk Avenue in New London before (even children with ample adult supervision) to try to volunteer once, just to witness this ministry in action.

We could use more people volunteering to make Shepherds' Pie or purchase green beans. Some of our regular cooks often have to make double recipes to meet the need.

Sign up sheets are posted in the new meeting space outside the sanctuary several weeks before the last Tuesday of each month.

From Stewardship Team member, Darryl Sentell

Stewardship

Stewardship to me is the idea of overseeing the ministries and business affairs of God's house at St. David's. Stewardship is a way of giving back the gifts God has blessed me with. I serve as a Chalice bearer on Sundays and this is a very special experience. As you know, Eucharist is a very holy time. It is wonderful to offer the wine to our parishioners; I see deep faith, love, and hope in their faces.

I have also served on the Vestry watching out for the business affairs of St. David's. There are difficult decisions that must be made and through faith and prayers we are guided in a direction which benefits the St. David's community. Members of the Vestry get to know each other well and it is like a family sitting around the dinner table discussing the Church family business.

Father Chuck has spoken of how we are all children of God and as such are relying on each other to continue the mission of St. David's. Again this is much like a family. We are dependent on each other to grow in our faith and expanding our ministry. Participating in any way allows us to be known and to know each other in a deeper way!

It is written in 1 Peter 4:10 - *Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms.* Some at St. David's are using their gifts as teachers or mentors, to work on committee's such as Outreach, or to serve on the Altar Guild, to name just a few.

What are your special God given gifts? How are you using those gifts here at St. David's to bless your faith family. While it is true that our community needs and will greatly benefit from your unique gifts, you too will benefit as you will be better known and cared for as you participate. You will also have fun getting to know your Church family siblings better.

With God's grace and guidance and your help, we can bring additional members into our family and strengthen our outreach and continue the mission of St. David's!



From Pete Hall

You too can be a Member of the new

Kitchen Krew

so don't miss this unique opportunity!!!

A group of Saint David's parishioners will be trained in learning the intricacies of our beautiful new kitchen. Then once every four to eight weeks, depending on the number of people signing up, they would make sure that after the 10:15 am coffee hour or other food event, the kitchen was properly secured. A simple task, but one that needs to be covered.

Those interested, please contact:

Pete Hall (860) 739-2020 hallpete@aol.com

Linzee Bagge (860) 886-4770 geolinz@sbcglobal.net

The current volunteers are Leslie Aiken, Rick Aiken, Linzee Bagge, Pete Hall, Linda Lillie, Al Schober, and Pete Schultz. More people that attend the 10:15 service are needed.

From Maren Schober

Saint David's Day Family Talent Show

Sunday, February 28th!

Saint David's Day will be celebrated Sunday February 28th with a *family talent show* in our new parish hall! Maren Schober and Karen Ysewyn are planning this event for all ages! the event. This is a time to contribute a solo or instrument solo or get together with your friends for a short comedy skit. Don't be shy. This is a time to share the talent God has given you. Please use the sign ups posted in our new meeting space outside the sanctuary so we can plan a program around your talent contributions.

The talent show will start about 12:45 p.m. following a finger food lunch which follows the 10:15 worship service.

*** St. David's Day this year is a PARENT-CHILD DRESS ALIKE DAY. This is not a costume contest...a dress alike day. This is also a couples DRESS ALIKE DAY. Use your imagination. What can you come up with?

Please also sign up for supporting help. We *still need lunch coordinators, Master of Ceremonies, Program Design and Printing, Photographers, Props and Stage Hands, Sign Makers, Set Up and Clean Up* crew.

Any questions? Call Maren 860.848.7066 or Karen 860.536.1715.

Let's all get behind this and make this a great St. David's Day!



Photos are on vacation with the McLanes, but if you can't wait until the March newsletter; please go to

<http://gallery.me.com/mmclane/100659>

to see photos of 2 recent events concerning Saint David's members.

Saint David's Episcopal Church

P.O. Box 296

284 Stoddard's Wharf Road

Gales Ferry, CT 06335

Ash Wednesday Services

Wednesday, February 17th

7:00 am ~ 9:30 am ~ 7:00 pm