



Saint David's News

Opportunities are shown in **bold RED italics** in this issue

<http://www.saintdavidsgf.org/>

860 464-6516 • stdavidsgf@aol.com

284 Stoddard's Wharf Rd. Gales Ferry, Ct. 06335

Gales Ferry, Connecticut-----An Episcopal Church founded in 1962 or 63 -----Nov. 2011

Dates for Your Calendar

Nov 14	7:00 p.m.	Hour of Prayer for St. David's
	7:00 p.m.	Godly Play Story Tellers Meeting
Nov 18 to 20		Emmaus is held at St. David's
Nov 20		No Sunday School Due to Emmaus
	2:30 p.m.	Groton Regency
Nov 21	7:00 p.m.	Outreach Ministry Meeting
Nov 22	7:00 p.m.	Kitchen/Fellowship Ministry Meeting
Nov 23	7:30 p.m.	Ecumenical Thanksgiving Eve Service at St. Luke Lutheran
Nov 24 & 25		Office Closed for Holiday
Nov 29	4:30 p.m.	Community Service Dinner
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Dec 3	8:00 a.m.	Deadline for the December Newsletter
Dec 4		St. Nicholas Visit
Dec 8	10:00 a.m.	Folding Fellowship
Dec 11		Lessons & Carols
Dec 12	7:00 p.m.	Hour of Prayer for St. David's
Dec 13	7:15 p.m.	Vestry Meeting
Dec 18		Christmas Pageant
Dec 19	7:00 p.m.	Outreach Ministry Meeting
Dec 24	6:00 p.m.	Christmas Eve Service
	11:00 p.m.	Christmas Eve Service
Dec 25	9:00 a.m.	Single Sunday Service
	1:00 p.m.	Christmas Feast at St. David's
Dec 26		Office Closed for Holiday
Dec 27	4:30 p.m.	Community Service Dinner

Women's Group 6:30 a.m. on Tuesdays (1st & 3rd)
Men's Group 7:00 a.m. on Wednesdays
Women's Study 10:30 a.m. on Wednesdays

ONE WEB PAGE FOR ALL PICTURES
FROM THE 16 MOST RECENT NEWSLETTERS!
<http://michaeljmclane.com/StDavid/Multi-Newsletters.html>

VESTRY UPDATES

NOMINATING COMMITTEE: Kim Shukis was elected to fill the Nominating Committee position vacated by Brian Green.

REPLACEMENT VESTRY PERSON – Nancy Randall was elected to fill the Vestry position vacated by Brian Green. She will serve until the 2012 Annual Meeting.

CONVENTION RESOLUTIONS: Steve Forbes spoke of the 13 proposed resolutions, which were addressed at the Annual Diocesan Convention (October 21-22, 2011). Copies had been provided to vestry members and were briefly described by Jill Foster. It was suggested that members contact convention delegates with any comments.

VESTRY INTERVIEW UPDATE: Consultant, Barbara Casey, will work closely with the Vestry regarding interview procedures before the Search Committee submits the final candidate names to the Vestry for its consideration. Due to the Junior Warden's unavailability to fully serve the Search Committee, Ken Nogacek, Search Committee Chair, will be invited to participate in the candidate interviews conducted by the Vestry. Ken will serve as a nonvoting member.

OUTREACH: The Vestry approved the release of \$500 for the Children's Sabbath project. However, it was the consensus of the Vestry that further release of funds from the Outreach budget will be contingent upon the availability of funds.

OTHER: Allan Dierman presented a proposal to repaint the merged J2A and YAC classroom. Allan's goal is to provide these youngsters with a safe environment, a sacred environment and a space they can call their own. Allan and the class members will donate their time and talent to perform the work involved. He proposed that a mural be painted on one wall consisting of blank puzzle pieces. Each youth will be assigned a piece of the puzzle to paint in a manner reflective of the personal gift(s) they have to offer the church. The Vestry approved Allan Dierman's repainting and mural proposal.

DEANERY: Allan Dierman reported that the Deanery is moving forward with the development of an outdoor Eucharist. He also asked if Saint David's would be interested in hosting an Acolyte Festival in May or June, 2012. Allan will verify church availability before proceeding.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Chris Curcio, Treasurer, reviewed her written report and expressed concern over the current financial status of the church.

Income shortfalls and Outreach funds were discussed. It was the conclusion of the Vestry that a parish-wide letter be sent to all parishioners. The purpose of the letter is to inform the congregation of the budgetary constraints facing the parish as well as the very real possibility of reductions having to be made in vital areas of ministry, programs and staff hours.

Steve Forbes

Senior Warden



Saint David's Photo Directory

We are finalizing the new edition of the church Photo Directory. Please look at the draft pages in the Gathering Space and inspect your picture. If it is good, do nothing. If it is out of date or you want another picture, cross out the picture shown and we will take a new photo. If your picture is not shown, we need a new one to put in our database.

We want to complete the new directory soon because it will be a big help to the new Rector in identifying parishioners. Pictures will be taken after each service during November. Any questions, call Pete Landolt (860-536-6487).



Outreach Updates and Opportunities

I hope you were present on Children Sabbath Sunday, October 23rd, to hear Patrick Lang's call to action and his reminder that one person can make a difference, one person can change the world!

Saint David's serves the dinner at the New London Community Meal Center the last Tuesday of every month. For the last several months, "we" have been short on needed casseroles. Time to make a shepherd's pie...around 1 hour...cost to make it...around \$15 - \$20. depending on where you shop and if you use coupons...to fill an empty belly because it is the end of the month and their food stamps have run out ...PRICELESS!!! Month by month signups are posted by Pete Hall on the bulletin board in the gathering space outside the sanctuary.

On Children Sabbath, our children decorated and stuffed 50 welcome bags for children who will be entering the TVCCA Shelter in Norwich. Each bag contained a sleep shirt; toothbrush, toothpaste, and dental floss (donated by

Dr. Ken & Dr. Lisa Nogacek); a stuffed animal; and assorted gifts. Ida, shelter manager, emailed me that "I can't share with you enough of what a difference the welcome bags" make to a child whose life has forced them to the shelter.

Saint David's walkers raised \$1,207. for this year's CROP Walk on October 16th at United Methodist Church. At last look, UMC believes that when all the funds are in, the grand total for this year's event will reach between \$11,000. & \$12,000.

On Sunday, October 2nd, Marilyn Lowney, executive director of the Haitian Health Foundation (HHF), accepted Saint David's check for \$5,000 for our ninth year of adoption of the Haitian Village of Decide. Dr. Jeremiah Lowney, founder of HHF, wrote, in a thank you to St. David's: "It is impossible for me to relate the importance that this \$5,000 grant is for the people of Decide. Geographically the village is at the top of a mountain, is very inaccessible, and takes several hours to reach on dirt paths. The Health Agent in Decide, Wilson Vital, who is supported completely by your grant, has kept the village healthy and productive because of the generosity of the good people of St. David's Church".

Coming in late November and December....

♥ Sunday, November 27th...our fourth giving tree will be up ***gathering presents for the children*** who will be attending our 7th annual St. Vincent de Paul Christmas Party on December 15th.

♥ Sunday, December 4th...St. Nick will be at St. David's filling his bag with your ***donations of toys and warm clothes*** and gently used, clean coats to stock the Christmas Feast's "gift shoppe".

♥ Monday, December 12th...Pizza Party/Work Party to ***prep for the St. Vincent Party.***

♥ Thursday, December 15th...St. Vincent Party 4-6 p.m....need many merry elves to host!!!

♥ Sunday, December 25th...our 23rd ***Annual Christmas Feast*** from 1 -3 p.m. in our parish hall.

Yes...there are lots of opportunities...but it isn't overwhelming...pick the ones that touch your heart and then answer Patrick's call to action and make a difference...you will be the one blessed!!!

Thanks!

Sandi Brown



50th Anniversary Celebration Team

A new committee has been formed to conceive, plan and carry out celebration activities and events for our 50th anniversary year at Saint David's. There are many opportunities during the next twelve-to-eighteen months for parishioners to participate in our celebrations. We need lots of help to implement the programs that will be taking place in 2012 and 2013. You will hear much more about these events in the next few months. The core team already exists, and ***if you would like to volunteer to participate*** (in any capacity whatsoever) to help make the 50th Anniversary GREAT, contact Pete Landolt (860-536-6487).



Gathering Group

The Gathering Group continues to meet every Sunday in the library between the two services. Recently we have had lively discussions about the Narrative Budget, Membership, and the search for our New Rector. This is an especially good place for new parishioners to meet informally and get to know others in our parish family. If you are looking for someplace to park from about 9:15 to 10:05, join us in the Library for open discussion. Frequently the Rector sneaks in to participate, but attendance is NOT taken. If you have any questions, contact Judy or Pete Landolt (860-536-6487).



Fellowship & Kitchen Ministry

Fellowship

In order for us to use the kitchen for the Christmas Feast, it has to have an external health inspection. To prepare for that, the Fellowship and Kitchen Ministry is holding a Kitchen and Parish Hall Clean Up on December 9th, starting at 5:30 P.M. and going until we're done cleaning and having fun. Many hands make for light work. Please come and join us. If you can't be there at the start, it's ok to join later. But "Come on down!"

Recycling

Please use the blue recycling bins in the Gathering Space and the Parish Hall for paper, cardboard, cans, plastics (including emptied Styrofoam and other plastic cups). Paper products with food stuck to them should go into regular trash. If the bin gets full, please call or text Dave Cady (860-608-7512) to let him know. Let's be faithful stewards of God's bounty in all things.

Coffee Hour

The Parish Survey identified Coffee Hour as the fellowship event most important to us as a parish. The Fellowship and Kitchen Ministry is preparing next year's schedule for the Coffee Hour following the 10:15 service. Please let Dave Cady know (email is preferred: bloorg27@aol.com) as soon as possible what dates you cannot be available. If you have not previously volunteered for this important ministry and would like to step forward, please let Dave know.

Suggestion Box

There is a Fellowship and Kitchen Ministry suggestion box in the Gathering Space. Please let us know any ideas you have for new or improved fellowship activities.

Dave Cady



<- - - - - Hear Ye! Hear Ye! - - - - ->

The vestry nominating committee, Mimi Peck-Llewellyn, Kim Shukis (Brian Green's replacement) and Steve Forbes has started to meet. We are looking for nominations for Senior and Junior Warden, Treasurer, and Clerk (all one year terms), and five vestry positions (three three-year terms, one two-year term and one one-year term). Also we need a Deanery representative (two year term) and an alternate Diocesan Convention delegate (one year term). Please see any of the committee members ***if you have questions or are interested in serving.***

Download or view this month's pictures. These pictures and more in **color**, from this web site <http://gallery.me.com/mmclane#101100>

October Average Sunday attendance		
140		
=====		
Thru 10/31/11		
	Actual	Budget
Pledges	\$210,187	\$221,990
Plate	\$6,900	\$13,746
Total	\$217,087	\$235,739

*Be thoughtful, be silent, be reverent;
for this is the House of God.
Before the service speak to the Lord;
During the service let the Lord speak to you;
After the service, speak to one another.*