

The Tablet

St. David's Episcopal Church

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June 2008

Volume 39, Number 6

Sunday Services

8 am Holy Eucharist II

10 am Holy Eucharist II

10 am Church School

Wednesday Service

9:15 am Holy Eucharist
& Healing

St. David's Staff

Rector:

The Rev. Karin Mitchell

Priest Assistant:

The Rev. Linda Scholer

Deacon:

The Reverend

Richard Wisniewski

Associate:

The Reverend

Richard Cromwell

Pastoral Care:

Br. John Baptist, OSF

Director of Music:

Dr. Camilla Jarnot

Rector Emeritus:

The Reverend Canon

Laurence Fish

Office Assistant:

Judy Henningsen

Dear Friends,

Saint David's Church Mission Statement

“St. David's is a congregation encouraged to grow in love and service to God, and to seek understanding of what it means to be a child of God. We search for God's will for our lives and go forth boldly to minister in His name. Sometimes that's as simple as coffee hour together and a sympathetic listener. Sometimes it involves more formal ministries such as hospital visitations, lay calling, or lay reading. Other times it's visible in our Church school and adult education programs, in counseling, youth work, or in feeding the hungry through various area programs, or new frontiers as they are discovered. St. David's provides an unusually warm and nurturing atmosphere for worship and spiritual growth. We are a strongly supportive congregation, welcoming newcomers with loving, open arms.”

I hope this sounds familiar! It is the Mission Statement from the Parish Profile, written during the time of your search for the second Rector of St. David's. It speaks to the nature of St. David's Parish family; a family of seekers who welcome others who are seeking a deeper understanding of what it means to be “a child of God”.

Over the next months, our Building Exploration Committee will be undertaking a study to write a “Ministry Program” which will include a vision statement about our future. That vision statement will build on what you have already determined to be your identity and mission; “to provide a warm and nurturing atmosphere for worship and spiritual growth...a strongly supportive congregation, welcoming newcomers with loving, open arms”.

We now must look at our desire to be that community and how our physical plant is helping or hindering us in living out our mission. If we are to be true to our words, we will have to apply ourselves to finding a workable solution to the space constraints we are facing. I hope that all those who love St. David's and take seriously our mission in this time and place will participate in this process as together we seek God's will for our ministry and community.

Blessings,

Karin+

THANK YOU TO:

- ☺ Russ Beaulieu, Kate Skalka, Lee Powers and the Men's Fellowship for the new paint job in Croes Hall.
- ☺ Gioia York for picking up and delivering the flowers for our Sunday services.
- ☺ All those who have provided meals for our families in need this month.
- ☺ Angela Levy, Shirley Davis-Vassall and Richard Bailey, who attended the Magnetic Church Conference in May.
- ☺ Father Harry and Mother Linda for their study of Homosexuality, Scripture and the Church, and to the faithful attendees of the class.
- ☺ Marcia Ruhl, Gioia York and Talia Terhune for their help with the monthly mailing of the Tablet.
- ☺ St. Matthew's Church in Pennington for the kneelers for our Sanctuary.
- ☺ The members of the St. David's Choir who sang at the Trenton Convocation Confirmation service at St. Michael's in Trenton and Dr. Jarnot, who was the organist.
- ☺ Pat Roberts for the talk she gave to our Women's Lunch Group on "Non-Violence".

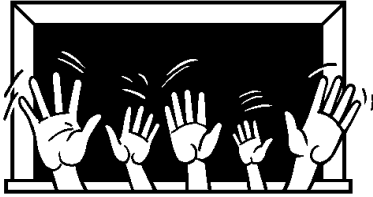
CONGRATULATIONS TO:

- ☺ Ryan Hegedus, John Hall III, Jake Sonnenfeld and Todd White, who were confirmed and received by our Bishop on Sunday, May 19th at St. Michael's Church in Trenton.
- ☺ Ms. Amy Mansue, who received an honorary Doctorate from Monclair State University.
- ☺ Chris & Kathleen Cenci, on the birth of their son, Steven Joseph, on May 15th, joining brother Tyler.
- ☺ Corinne Peters, for her first place prize awarded by the Ellarslie Trenton City Museum.
- ☺ Brianna Levy, on her graduation from The Peddie School on May 25th. Brianna will be attending Rhodes College in Tennessee this fall.
- ☺ Brian Laustsen, who graduates second in his class at Hightstown High School on June 19th. Brian will be attending Rutgers University this fall as a student in the School of Engineering Honors Program.
- ☺ Christian Herzog, who has been awarded a Masters degree in Education from Holy Family University.
- ☺ David Miller, who was honored for his work in the arts in Southern Jersey by the Arts Council.
- ☺ Rebecca Peters, who will graduate from West Windsor South High School and attend Fordham University on a full scholarship this fall.
- ☺ David Foppes, who will graduate from West Windsor North High School and attend the Florida Institute of Technology this fall.

SUMMER WORSHIP SCHEDULE BEGINS JULY 6th

On Sunday, July 6th, we will begin our summer worship schedule. There will be one service at 9 am. The worship this summer will be a said Eucharist; it will feature fewer hymns with more contemporary music; and it will have a children's talk each Sunday. The Rector promises to do her best to have you on your way within an hour and to ensure a "child-friendly" worship experience. Please plan on beginning your summer Sundays here at St. David's!





Sunday School NEWS



OUR LOWER CHURCH SCHOOL has had a wonderful year! Thanks to the teachers, Ann Holmes, Denise Touhey (Pre-K-1), Jean Hegedus, Amy Douth (2-3), Bill Kluxen, Susan Laustsen (4-5), Peggy Caputo in the Nursery and Gwen Lockhart, Superintendent, we have had a year of projects, Holy Day Observances, celebrations, Children's Church and Communion Instruction. Every class was a time of prayer, study, laughter, loving care and Christian Nurture. In August look for our Tablet article on September's Rally Sunday when the Lower Church School begins the 2008-09 program year. We have great things planned for all!

ALSO--We are looking for 2-3 adults to co-teach. Loving kids will be your greatest skill for this kind of ministry. Give Mother Linda or Mother Karin a call and talk with them!

Parents be sure to register your children before June 15th.

SUNDAY JUNE 8TH IS THE LAST CLASS AND THIS WILL BE A CELEBRATION SUNDAY DURING WORSHIP. BE SURE TO JOIN US FOR THE SERVICE & PICNIC!



Childcare Volunteers

ADULT NURSERY CARETAKERS NEEDED...We are forming a group of adults (Moms or Dads) who will provide child care on a rotation basis in the Nursery on Sunday mornings between September and June. We have five adults who have signed up so far. We would like to have eight or more to make serving in this ministry easy and workable. Much thanks goes to the teens who have served for many years and more recently to Peggy Caputo, who has served every week in the Nursery. Please call or speak to Mother Linda or Peggy Caputo if you could join us. Mo. Linda's cell: 609-306-6614.

Dear Cherished Parish Family,

Yes, you have heard correctly. I am moving. This is a most difficult letter because while I am happy to be heading to the home my husband, Dr. Fred, and I built, I am also very sad to leave St. David's and my life as friend and priest with all of you! The solution just seems to be so easy. Couldn't all of you move with us to Chincoteague Island?

Seriously speaking, this has been a time of rich ministry for me because of the love and openness of all-clergy, members and staff. It is hard to leave a place and people where one feels affirmed, encouraged, and trusted. Many a time I thought how amazing it has been to be your organist before and as you moved into this 25 year-old building and then again as you were forging ahead with your second Rector, Mother Karin. It seems that God has some gift for timing. I had really thought that I would finish out my 38 years of lay and priestly ministry in this Diocese with retreat work and guest preaching. One afternoon a phone call which I thought was Karin calling to ask me to join her for one of our frequent lunch get-together's. I remember sitting at the dining room table listening and it wasn't lunch she was talking about. Come work with you for Advent? Are you kidding me? Really? yes, In a heart beat, Karin! And, well, you know the story from there.

I have such a storehouse of memories: my first Baptism, J2A, Rite 13, The J2A Marathon, Noah's Ark Kid's Sermon with sound effects by congregation, Ladies Tea, Vestry retreats, "Chapel Talks", Children's Church with the child's Altar built by Tom Evans, Advent Wreath Lighting with the children, Christmas-Epiphany Pageant, Caribbean Night in a luau shirt, Arlis's uncle singing to Fr. Harry's piano accompaniment last Easter Vigil, hospital Communion, the comfort of prayer one on one in the worst of times, Adult Forum study/discussion series, teaching with Fr. Harry, blessing babies and children, John Aveni, Kim Neighbor and me at the organ on the Sunday we were nearly flooded out of church, Karin and myself doing our first Ash Wednesday for Children, and working day in and day out with Mother Karin! We have experience so much together in two years!

As I prepare to move to an island (which might be as challenging as this 7-day SILENT retreat I am about to go in an hour!) I do hope to have some quiet time with you all to tell you how dear each of you are to me and to once again remind you that you are God's beloved. Thank you for your prayers, your trust and your love. I hope that I have given "as good as I have received"! I urge to keep your eyes and hearts open because in a while God will show her/his "special timing" again and just who you need will come among you as a sign of hope, a minister of God's inclusive Love.

With love and blessings, Mother Linda+



St. David's June 2008 Outreach Project

May 2008 has been a month of devastating weather-related disasters not only in the USA with tornadoes and floods, but also worldwide with cyclones and earthquakes.

Myanmar--

Episcopal Relief & Development is on the ground and running in Myanmar helping those impacted by Cyclone Nargis. This storm, packing winds up to 150 miles per hour, swept through the country on May 3rd, leaving over 22,000 people dead and 41,000 more still missing. The death toll is expected to rise. Over 1 million people have lost their homes. Entire villages have been swept away or are under water. Working with local Anglican and ecumenical partners, Episcopal Relief & Development is sending funds to secure desperately needed shelter, food, water and other critical supplies for people displaced by the cyclone.

China--

We are just now beginning to get the details of the devastation caused by the earthquake in Central China. Thousands are dead and missing. The rescue and relief efforts there are just getting started.

The USA--

In our own country the effects of tornados and floods are being felt in the heartland. Help is also needed there to provide food and shelter and begin the healing and rebuilding process.

How can St. David's help??

Our Outreach giving for the month of June will be donated to the Episcopal Relief & Development Fund. Check out their Website at er-d.org. As always, your generosity is greatly appreciated. June 8th is designated as Outreach Sunday and the second collection basket will be passed. The ushers have Outreach envelopes available if you need one. Donations will gladly be accepted for the Episcopal Relief & Development Fund at any time during the month.

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"Free Rice"

Check out the Website freerice.com some time. This Website has a fun way to help those who are hungry in the world. The Website offers a word game that donates a grain of rice for each correct answer you provide. There are many skill levels so that young children up to crossword puzzle aficionados can have fun playing. So far over three billion grains have been donated through the UN World Food Program.



FROM THE DEACON'S BENCH

By Deacon Rich

This month I am celebrating the first anniversary of my Ordination and completing my first year of ministry here at St. David's. There are times when I am very aware of the newness of what I am doing and at other times I feel the comfort of doing things that I have always done, except in a different setting.

I want all of you to know that I have truly appreciated your welcoming spirit and that you and I are blessed by having as our leader, Mother Karin. She has been a source of strength for me along with being an understanding teacher. Not all clergy in The Episcopal Church have the same understanding of and appreciation for the ministry of the Diaconate as Mother Karin does. I have been made to feel like a partner in the ministry of this Parish. I can tell you that this is not true in all parishes.

We here at St. David's are facing some challenges in the coming months. Together, I am sure that we will, with God's help, develop a clear plan for the physical needs of our growing community. I am excited to have joined you at this time in your journey and I look forward to celebrating with you when the plans we are now developing become a reality.

Before I close, I would also like to thank all of you for your prayers for my wife, Sarah, she is doing much better and is looking forward to being back to 100% soon.



JUNE BIRTHDAYS

Shawn Donelson, Jr.	1	Stephan Black	28
Olufemi Jones	1	Judy Mabin	28
The Rev. Canon Laurence Fish	2	Marna McDermott	28
Keith Franks	2	Harry Ruhl	29
Ed Abramovitz	4		
Susan Curry	4		
Robert McKay	9		
John Lilly	13		
Robert Hegedus	15		
Emily Caputo	17		
Peter Caputo	17		
Vanessa Donelson	17		
Margaret Perritt	17		
James Taylor	19		
Jennifer Stenard	22		
Josephine Brant	24		

JUNE WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

Michelle & Michael Black	4
The Rev. Richard & Margaret Cromwell	6
Todd & Amanda Kovacs	9
Ian & Lesline Bailey	17
Robert & Jean Hegedus	24
Lawrence & Frances Rak	27
Peter & Peggy Caputo	28
Kevin & Corinne Peters	29

“Made in God's Image & Likeness”

A meditation by Father Harry



The first lesson on Trinity Sunday, a couple of weeks ago, had God speaking these words, "let us make humankind, in our image, according to our likeness." A couple of verses later it says, in effect, "...and it was so."

The Apostles, and early followers of Jesus, were all Jews who believed in Yahweh (God). They had experienced a close relationship with Jesus before His Crucifixion. And at Pentecost they experienced the gift of the Holy Spirit. The Doctrine of the Trinity began as a short-hand description of their experiences. This was debated and written down as a Doctrine at Nicea, 325 AD. The Church ever since has attempted to understand and explain the mystery of the Trinity.

I entered Holy Orders on Trinity Sunday 63 years ago. I have come to see the Triune God as relationship of Father, Son and Holy Spirit. If we are made in God's image and likeness we are, also, relationship. When Cain murdered his brother Abel (Gen. 4:8-9) and God asked Cain where his brother was, and Cain answered by asking a question, "Am I my brother's keeper?" And God answered in effect, "...as a matter of fact, you are!"

Does the truth of the Trinity have any tangible relevance to our daily lives? I believe that it does. For example, the three Senators currently engaged in seeking the Presidency have all expressed concern about our national health care and each has offered some solution for our consideration. My brother is a retired physician. He lives in Vancouver, and has a winter home in Palm Desert, California. We have discussed the two health cares of our two nations on occasion. He said, "we decided to put everyone on Medicare, not just the senior citizens, and then began the debate on how to pay for it"-(I wryly noticed the 'continuing debate) "but, in the meantime, the important thing is, everyone is covered." Maybe one of the above cited Senators might offer that as a solution.

Of course, when everyone is put on Medicare the addition creates a scarcity and non-emergencies may have to wait their turn. In the US with about 40 million currently not covered by any insurance, their addition also would result in each us, except emergencies, having to wait our turn too. Yet, since the Tri-une God is relationship in whose image and likeness we are made, we are also in relationship, and God's reminder to Cain is a reminder to us too. How tangibly the Doctrine of the Trinity speaks to our daily lives today!

SAVE THE DATES FOR THE 2008 COMMUNITY BIBLE ADVENTURE!

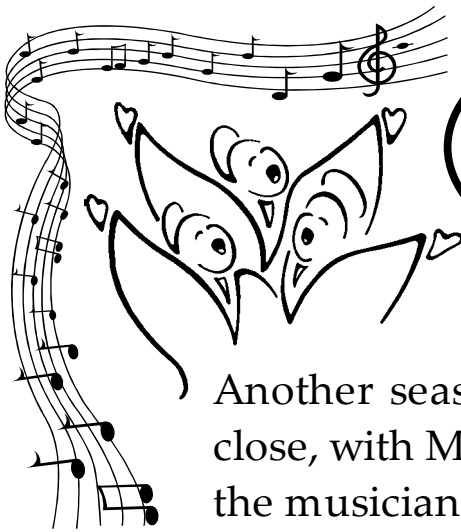
MONDAY—THURSDAY, JULY 21—24, 6-8 p.m.

We look forward to our Jerusalem Bible Adventure this summer. It's a family ministry from 6-8 pm for elementary students and their parents, assisted by middle-school and high-school students. A casual family-style dinner is included in the evening's activities, along with singing, drama, games, crafts and Bible lessons. We hope you will participate and help make this year as much fun as it was last year! It will be a partnership of churches in Cranbury. Heidi Bonwell graciously agreed to serve as the Coordinator again.

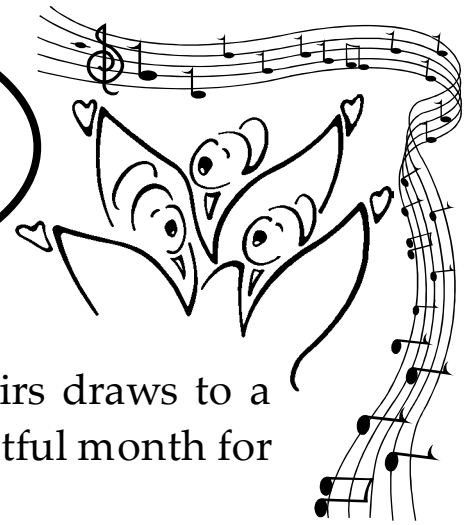
We will search the riches and wisdom of the Bible in new ways this summer. Two special activities are planned. Jerry Yochelson will bring and discuss a beautiful, historic Torah scroll from his synagogue. This scroll reaches from one end of the stage to the other. Pastor Rosanna will lead a hands-on session and let participants handle with care the 8th century BCE potsherds she dug up while working at the archaeological dig at Tel Beth Shemesh, Israel. Other fun and interesting features await you at the Community Bible Adventure.

St. David's is not formally participating this year, but if you would like to attend this Cranbury community function, please call Pastor Rosanna at 395-0897 for more information.





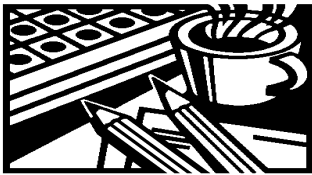
St. David's Choirs Musical News



Another season for the St. David's Choirs draws to a close, with May having been a very eventful month for the musicians at St. David's.

The Children's Choir gave a beautiful performance on May 4th, with Rebecca Ulrich as soloist. The J2A singers and instrumentalist performed wonderfully at the Rite 13 Service, and St. David's Adult Choir gave an outstanding performance as part of the joint choir of the Trenton Convocation on Sunday, May 18th, in the Confirmation Service at St. Michael's in Trenton. Choir Recognition Day will be on Sunday, June 15th. I am indebted to the gifted singers and musicians of St. David's who give freely of their time and talents, and make our worship so uplifting!

Dr. Camilla Jarnot, Musical Director



WE HAVE A NEW OFFICE ASSISTANT AT ST. DAVID'S!

Hi! I'm Judy Henningsen, the new office assistant. I live in Jackson, NJ with my husband, Erik, and my two sons, Brian, age 14, and Kevin, age 11. I'm looking forward to meeting everyone here at St. David's.

Sunday, June 8th Parish Picnic following the 10 am service

Please bring a dish to pass. A sign-up sheet is located on the bulletin board in the Narthex. All are welcome to this fun annual event!

UPDATE ON SEMINARIAN CHUCK FISCHER:

Chuck was recently elected President of the Virginia Theological School student body; he will also be serving as President of the National Office of Black Episcopal Seminarians.

Plans are for him to be ordained a Deacon in the Diocese of Atlanta sometime in December. Chuck admits that he has been remiss in sending a formal thank-you, but he extended his thanks to St. David's for the periodic donations. As a full-time student and new father, they have been deeply appreciated.

Charles and Marilyn Fischer

