

SAINT DAVID'S

Visions



Mission Statement: As a visible symbol of God's presence in the world, St. David's Church is a welcoming and diverse community of disciples, actively serving Christ in one another and all those beyond our doors

NOVEMBER 2009

Thanksgiving

November 1

All Saints' Sunday

Commitment Ingathering

**Festival Potluck Brunch
after 10:15 am Service**

November 22

COMMUNITY THANKSGIVING SERVICE

7:30 PM

LOCATION TBA



From the Rector

My sabbatical time was all that I had hoped and prayed for it to be. I am so grateful to both a diocese and parish that believe this is an important and necessary activity.

By traveling, exploring, reading, writing, hiking, and praying I was able to rejuvenate my spirit and return relaxed and refreshed. I am certain that I will be reflecting for a long time what all of this means for me and for us along with how God was in all of it. My hope is that we will be able to do much of this reflection together. Actually, I have already started doing this with our wardens and vestry.

The word *sabbatical* comes from the more familiar word *sabbath* which means a time of rest. Customarily, it is a break or change from a normal routine (as of employment). We hear the word *sabbath* in the scriptures. It is the fourth commandment:

Remember the Sabbath day and keep it holy. Six days you shall labor and do all your work, but the seventh day is a Sabbath of the Lord your God: you shall not do any work. . . . For in six days the Lord made heaven and earth and sea, and all that is in them, and He rested on the seventh day; therefore the Lord blessed the Sabbath day and hallowed it.

Exodus 20:8-11

It seems that you and I can be holy and free by limiting our activity on a regular basis. I have a hard time counting many free beings among my acquaintance. I know people who can do five things at once who are incapable of doing nothing. I know people who are able to decide what to do without being able to do less of it. Since I am one of those people, I know that limiting my activity by saying no to some things is a more difficult spiritual practice than tithing, meditating silently for thirty minutes, or visiting a prisoner in jail — because while all of those worthy activities may involve saying no to something else so that I can do them instead, they still amount to doing more instead of less. Limiting my activity does not help me feel holy. Doing more feels holy, which is why I stay so intrigued by the fourth commandment.

While on sabbatical, I caught myself saying no to several things: to work, to commerce, to the Internet, to the car, to the voice in my head that is forever whispering, “More.” Now, back at work, that voice is back even louder and I find myself wanting to hang on to sabbath.

In the eyes of God, sabbath is imperative — not every now and then but on a regular basis — and for a whole day! So my dilemma is how to hang on to sabbath. I wonder how we can all practice the illusive art of saying no in order to stay fresh, stay more connected to God, each other and the world — not to do, but be. Prayer is a good place to start and I close with one of my favorite prayers in *Gates of Prayer* by Chaim Stern. It is called “Welcoming Sabbath” and it goes like this:

Our noisy day has now descended with the sun beyond our sight.

In the silence of our praying place we close the door upon the hectic joys and fears, the accomplishments and anguish of the week we have left behind.

What was but moments ago the substance of our life has become memory; what we did must now be woven into what we are.

On this day we shall not do, but be.

We are to walk the path of our humanity, no longer ride unseeing through a world we do not touch and only vaguely sense.

No longer can we tear the world apart to make our fire.

On this day heat and warmth and light must come from deep within ourselves.

If we can hear the welcome in that prayer, then perhaps we can hear the dis-ease in it as well. How is our own deep fire doing, by the way? Are we pretty confident that we have enough heat and warmth and light within ourselves to get us through the night? Once we have turned off the computer and hung up the car keys, once we have decided to take sabbath time from earning our own salvation, are we ready to wrestle with the brawny angels who show up?

Please pray this prayer with me daily so that we might begin to receive its welcome and move into observing regular sabbath time — the practice of saying no.

Together with you in Christ’s ministry,

David+

Music! Music! Music!

Concerts at St. David's Episcopal Church,
91 Kinnelon Road, Kinnelon, NJ

Presents:

The Glissando Duo

Lisa Spraragen, guitarist/dancer
Elissa Weiss, soprano/harp

Sunday, November 15, 2:00 pm

A musical review of vibrant songs:

- traditional Sephardic melodies with exotic scales
- Garcia Lorca's arrangements of smoldering flamenco melodies
- early music by Salomone Rossi, who composed ground-breaking Jewish sacred music
- John Dowland's haunting and melancholy songs
- Schubert lieder, songs of love and longing.
- Selections from Castelnuovo-Tedesco's setting of the Divan, of Moses-Ibn-Ezra, a 12th century Spanish philosopher.



Suggested Donation: \$15

There will be light refreshment & a chance to meet the artists.

Tickets will be sold at church after services & in the office. They will also be available at the door on the day of the performance.

OUTREACH EVENTS FOR NOVEMBER

'Tis the season – when energy bills skyrocket, when warmer clothes are needed, when gifts are hoped for. 'Tis the season to give thanks for what we have and to share with those who have less. Gear up for Christmas with some Thanksgiving outreach!

Food Baskets

The Kinnelon Food Pantry is coordinating baskets for Thanksgiving and Christmas again this year. Fill a laundry basket with the goodies for a nice breakfast, lunch, and dinner. (Please, no turkeys – we have a donor for those.) Add a gift card for fresh items. Bring it to Boro Hall by November 16 for Thanksgiving, December 14 for Christmas. Let Gail know you're making a basket – call her at 973-838-5403 x 211.

If you know of another town that needs help and has a way to share, let us know. Better yet, if you live in a town that needs help and doesn't have a way to share, find the way and tell us how to help! Ask a friend for help. Make this a time of Thanksgiving for all!

North Porch

North Porch is now a year-round ministry for us. Our boxes are in the narthex, waiting for your donations. Baby lotion and oil, powder, and shampoo; cotton swabs; baby food, cereal, disposable diapers, and coupons for these items are all desperately needed and greatly appreciated. Newborn to toddler-4 clothes and coats are very welcome.

Strengthen Our Sisters

Strengthen Our Sisters needs caps, scarves, mittens, gloves, and socks for the children at their shelter in West Milford. We will have a box in the narthex. To help with this, contact Stacey Ferraro at 973-492-8480.

Christmas Presents – Oh Yes!

North Porch needs gifts for the siblings of the infants. Clothing, toys, or books are all good ideas. They should be wrapped and marked for size, gender, and age.

We will have a Giving Tree again this year. Please purchase a gift card from Kohl's, Target, or Wal-mart. Seal the cards(s) in small white envelopes and place them on the tree. Don't write the store name or the amount on the envelope. The cards will be divided equally among the families using the Food Pantry, so the parents can purchase what their children especially need or want. The tree will be in the narthex on November 15.

The Christmas Ingathering will be in church on December 13.

Don't Miss

- * THE REV. FLETCHER HARPER will be our guest preacher and adult forum leader on Sunday, November 8. Rev. Harper is an Episcopal priest and Executive Director of Greenfaith, a national Jersey-based organization that helps religious institutions with environmental issues.
- * ATTENTION YOUTH! There will be meetings of the group on Sunday, November 8 and Sunday, November 22, at 6:00 pm.
- * IT'S ONLY SIX MONTHS AWAY! The organizing committee for the 2010 Brake the Hunger Cycle Tour bike event will meet on Thursday, November 12, at 7:30 pm in the large skylight room. All are welcome to join this planning session.
- * November 29 is the first Sunday of Advent, the traditional time for making Advent wreaths. The children will do this during church - there will also be supplies available for any adults who would like to make them for their homes. Do you have an Advent ring left over from last year? Please bring it in!



Special Advent Programs

Paul Sansone will return to St. David's in Advent to lead us in a timely series about the story of Jesus' beginnings. The series title is "I Bring You Tidings of Great Joy". For three successive Wednesday evenings we will be looking at the story of Jesus' beginnings in Luke 1-2. Luke is the gospel we will be hearing most in the new church year which begins on November 29—the first Sunday of Advent.

We begin on Wednesday, December 2 and continue on the 9th and 16th. We meet in the parish hall for a simple soup and salad supper at 6:15 pm followed by the Holy Eucharist in the large skylight room. The lecture goes from 7:30 pm to 9:00 pm. Bring your bible!

You may register by signing up in church, e-mailing Martha Ridsdale, parish administrator, at martha.ridsdale@stdavidskinnelon.org or calling her at the parish office: 973-838-6696.

Outreach Programs at St. David's How Do I Help?

This fall we held a series of meetings to discuss the status and future of our outreach programs. One thing that we learned was that people may not know who to contact if they want to participate. The following people are currently available as resources for these ministries. If you would like to become involved or have any questions, please feel free to contact them.

Willing Hands: Herb Grieshaber, 973-838-6218
(Serving developmentally disabled adults in St. David's parish hall, weekdays)

Merry Heart: John Hitchings, 973-283-4366
(We offer one service of Morning Prayer each month)

Cedar Crest: The Rev. David DeSmith, 973-838-6696
(We celebrate the Eucharist at 3 p.m. on the 4th Tuesday of each month)

St. Paul's Shelter, Paterson: Judy Walker, 973-728-1595
(We prepare and serve food once every other month)

Interfaith Coalition for Homeless Families: Caroline Mossip, 973-838-5272
(We provide food and overnight supervision to homeless families one night in March, June, and September)

Break the Hunger Cycle Tour: Mike Odian, 973-838-5843
Rodger Pisani, 973-838-9404
(We raise funds to fight hunger at home and overseas, the first Saturday in May)

Kinnelon Food Pantry: Deacon Shane, 973-906-1881
(We provide food and household supplies to the Pantry as well as gift cards)

RISE: Debbie Roehrer, 973-492-2854
(Youth and adults repair homes for needy families in New York State – a week in July)

North Porch: Sondra Odian, 973-838-5843
(We collect items year-round for infants and toddlers)

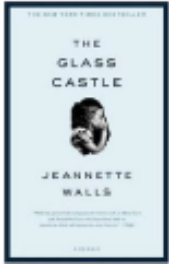
Strengthen Our Sisters: Stacey Ferraro, 973-492-8480
(We donate toilet items, clothing, and toys to this shelter for battered women)

Other programs occur on an occasional basis, such as our Advent Fair, Cameroon outreach, and others. If you have a passion for service, consider signing on for any of these programs – or start something new! Thank you for sharing God's gifts with others.

READERS CIRCLE BOOK GROUP

December 7th Book Selection

The Glass Castle, Jeannette Walls
St. David's Skylight Room, 7:30PM



Growing up with parents whose non-conformity was both a curse and a salvation, four children wandered like nomads through the Southwest. As time went on, dysfunction increased until the children had to learn to fend for themselves and support each other.

This is a true story of triumph against all odds, but also a tender, moving tale of unconditional love in a family with profound flaws. Please join us as Chris Snyder leads the discussion on December 7th. All are welcome.



* PHOTO DIRECTORY COMMITTEE - Ginny Bussey, Ray and Pat Crane, Julie Dolci, Tom Ferraro and Christine Rudolphi. Your hard work produced a very professional volume! Parishioners who don't already have theirs can pick them up on Sunday mornings.

* FALL CLEANUP COMMITTEE - Tom Ferraro, Caroline Mossip, Brian O'Connor, Christine Rudolphi and Marty Stanton. They did windows and pews, weeded, and raked on October 10. Thank you for all your efforts.

* ST. PAUL'S COMMITTEE - Elizabeth Bammel, Alice Clews, Herb and June Grieshaber, Joan Molee, Paul Pusecker and Irene Williams who did the food; servers Ed and Judy Walker and Barbara Zajac on October 20. Your dedication is appreciated!

Vestry Notes

From the meeting of October 15 -

Because of the lack of a quorum, no votes could be taken.

David was welcomed back from his sabbatical - he was grateful for the experience. The date for the fiftieth anniversary has been finalized - Sunday, June 6, 2010. Caroline Mossip, vestry representative to Willing Hands, announced that they are doing well, with steady jobs.

Budget vs. Actual for Period ending: September 30, 2009

Receipts - \$163,940 / \$162,552

Disbursements - \$170,096 / \$164,916

Attendance

October 2008
75

October 2009
71

We have received word that Vera Hiebler has moved to Denver in order to be closer to her children. Her new mailing address is: 437 Garfield Street, Denver, CO 80206. Please call the office if you wish to have her phone number.



Add People in Extreme Poverty to Your Christmas List

The “Gifts for Life” catalog from Episcopal Relief & Development is now available. Last year we joined the Episcopal Church in helping nearly 3 million people in extreme poverty.

You can purchase your gifts from a whole array of desperately needed items such as: animals, seeds, food, postnatal care, clean water, roving health clinics, vitamins and medicines, smokeless stoves, fruit trees, community gardens, and new green gift items that also protect our planet.

A purchase from “Gifts for Life” makes the perfect Christmas, birthday, anniversary or “just because” present. Gifts are available to order *all year round!*

Catalogs are in the narthex.

To order:

Online

www.er-d.org/giftsforlife

Select and order your gifts anytime!

Mail

Fill Out the Order Form

Phone

1-800-334-7626, ext. 5129

One of ERD’s representatives will help you with your order.

Please have your credit card ready.



Your contributions are tax-deductible.

BEYOND THE END OF THE ROAD

Have you ever traveled beyond the end of the road, beyond where people choose not to venture? No, you say? Actually you have...through others. And, many, many thank you for your efforts.

Over these past few weeks a few of us have visited with the Community Food Bank of New Jersey and with the Episcopal Relief and Development, delivering a total of \$12,000 to help further their efforts. We were your surrogates, since you were the ones who raised that money through the BRAKE the HUNGER CYCLE TOUR Bike Event this past May.

There are people in New Jersey who are hungry...genuinely hungry. The good people at the Community Food Bank of New Jersey step in, intervene and help save the day for many of them. They also give the children some decent clothes and school backpacks. These saints at the Community Food Bank do travel past the end of the road, helping the needy. The Bike Event allowed us to support this food bank with a \$3,000 check.

Globally, most people live in the "third world", their world lacking in the fundamentals of sound housing, sound health care and sound nutrition. At the heart of health issues in the third world is the lack of clean water, something we very much take for granted in our secure hamlets of northern New Jersey. It doesn't take rocket science to deal with these problems; catch basins, wells, some piping and education do the job. The Bike Event allowed us to support Episcopal Relief and Development's clean water efforts in Latin America with a \$9,000 check...again, thanks to your efforts.

Indeed, your good works have allowed you to reach out past where others dare not venture. By providing this help we have provided more than a few meals or some clean water with which to cook or bathe or drink. We have provided HOPE, the most essential element in life.



Phyllis Dunlop of the Community Food Bank of New Jersey and Deacon Shane at the CFBNJ Headquarters in Hillside, NJ



Bishop Mark Beckwith and Rodger Pisani at Diocesan Headquarters in Newark, NJ



Robert Radtke, President of the Episcopal and Relief Development, and Mike Odian at ERD Headquarters in NYC

THE BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS

(both great and small!)



CLEAN-UP DAY!



IT'S ALL IN THE WRIST ACTION!

HOW SPECIAL IT WAS TO HAVE
JUDY BALDWIN WITH US DURING
DAVID'S SABBATICAL!



BEEFSTEAK DINNER



THANKS

Church Members who Made Donations

Mary-Esther Arther

Elizabeth Bammel

Nan Barry

Joan Carpenter

David and Alice Clews

George and Margherita Davis

David DeSmith and John Simonelli

Karen Dunn

Dina Fanelli

Cathy Fisher

Herb and June Grieshaber

Jeanne Grieshaber

JoAnn Hahn

Mary-Stuart Hawk

John and Tina Hitchings

Pat Hodde

Frances Lopez

Jay and Joan Ludwig

Jim and Emily Mason

Susan Montgomery

Caroline Mossip

Brian and Linda O'Connor

Mike and Sondra Odian

Deacon Shane Phelan

Christine Rudolphi

Judy Tattersall

Bob and Nancy Ward

Sara Webb

June Whitehead

Irene Williams

Special Note of Thanks

Chairpersons John Hitchings and Linda O'Connor and their committee - Mary-Esther Arther, Pat Crane, Mary Stuart Hawk, Brian O'Connor, Laurie Pisani, and John Simonelli

Pat Crane, Brian O'Connor and Sara Webb for gathering donations and ads from far and near

Marty Stanton for putting up all the signs and he and John Simonelli photographing the event

Mary Stuart Hawk and her team for bringing all the baskets and donations together - Elizabeth Bammel, Dina Fanelli, Caroline Mossip, Sondra Odian, Deb Roehrer, Christine Rudolphi, Judy Tattersall, Sara Webb, and Irene Williams.

Caroline Mossip and her team for the ad journal - Mary-Esther Arther and Martha Ridsdale

David DeSmith for "tickling the ivories" during the evening

The set-up and break-down teams for all their hard work

YOU ARE ALL "THE GREATEST"!

THIS YEAR WE NETTED \$7,040

THANKS

Business Vendors/Clubs Who Made Donations

Clark's Hallmark – West Milford
Cornerstone Chiropractic - Riverdale
Ebers Automotive - Butler
Flowers Galore and More – Butler
Ice Box - Kinnelon
Lynne's Hallmark – Kinnelon
Meadtown Cleaners - Kinnelon
Newark Bears Professional Baseball
Newark Museum
North Jersey Stones and Stoves – West Milford
Positano Too – Kinnelon
Station 1 Hair Stylist – Pompton Lakes
Stegel's West Milford Hardware
Taste of Reality – Kinnelon
Wine in the Woods – West Milford

SAVE THE DATE!

SILENT AUCTION AND BEEFSTEAK DINNER



OCTOBER 2010

DATE TBA

SILENT AUCTION



WELCOME BACK BRUNCH!



Matthew Piermatti, Esq.
Oasis Forum Speaker

NOVEMBER 2009

| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|---|---|--------------------------------------|--|---|-----------|---|
| 1 ALL SAINTS DAY/ COMMITMENT SUNDAY 8:00 am Holy Eucharist 9:00 am Coffee Minute 9:15 am Choir Rehearsal 10:15 am Church School 10:15 am Holy Eucharist 11:30 am Festive Meal | 2 12:15 pm Noonday Prayer 5:15 pm Meditation Group 7:30 pm Book Group | 3 12:15 pm Noonday Prayer | 4 11:30 am Holy Eucharist 12:00 pm Lunch and Bible Study 4:00 pm Tai Chi Chih | 5 12:15 pm Noonday Prayer 7:30 pm Stewardship Commission | 6 | 7 |
| 8 CREATION 6 8:00 am Holy Eucharist 9:00 am Coffee Minute 9:15 am Choir Rehearsal 10:00 am Merry Heart 10:15 am Church School 10:15 am Holy Eucharist 11:30 am Coffee Hour 11:45 am Adult Forum 6:00 pm Youth Group | 9 5:15 pm Meditation Group 7:30 pm Women's Group | 10 12:15 pm Noonday Prayer | 11 OFFICE CLOSED VETERAN'S DAY 11:30 am Holy Eucharist 12:00 pm Lunch and Bible Study 4:00 pm Tai Chi Chih | 12 12:15 pm Noonday Prayer 7:30 pm Hunger Cycle Tour Meeting | 13 | 14 |
| 15 CREATION 7 8:00 am Holy Eucharist 9:00 am Coffee Minute 9:15 am Choir Rehearsal 10:15 am Church School 10:15 am Holy Eucharist 11:30 am Coffee Hour 2:00 pm Concert | 16 5:15 pm Meditation Group | 17 12:15 pm Noonday Prayer | 18 11:30 am Holy Eucharist 12:00 pm Lunch and Bible Study 4:00 pm Tai Chi Chih | 19 12:15 pm Noonday Prayer 7:30 pm Vestry Meeting | 20 | 21 9 am – 2 pm Rector, Wardens & Vestry Mutual Ministry Review at St. Gabriel's in Milton |
| 22 CREATION 8 8:00 am Holy Eucharist 9:00 am Coffee Minute 9:15 am Choir Rehearsal 10:15 am Church School 10:15 am Holy Eucharist 11:30 am Coffee Hour 6:00 pm Youth Group 7:30 pm Interfaith Service | 23 5:15 pm Meditation Group | 24 12:15 pm Noonday Prayer | 25 11:30 am Holy Eucharist 12:00 pm Lunch and Bible Study 4:00 pm Tai Chi Chih | 26 THANKSGIVING DAY OFFICE CLOSED | 27 | 28 |
| 29 ADVENT 1 8:00 am Holy Eucharist 9:00 am Coffee Minute 9:15 am Choir Rehearsal 10:15 am Church School 10:15 am Holy Eucharist 11:30 am Coffee Hour | 30 5:15 pm Meditation Group | | | | | |

St. David's Leadership Team

Empowering all our members to build bridges of hope with the living Christ through worship, spiritual formation, hospitality and outreach.

Bishop: *The Rt. Rev. Mark Beckwith*
Rector: *The Rev. David J. DeSmith*
Deacon: *The Rev. Shane Margaret Phelan, CSJB*
Senior Warden: *Linda O'Connor*
Junior Warden: *Caroline Mossip*
Vestry: *Mary-Esther Arther (Treasurer)*
Nancy Ward (Clerk)
Brian Bussey
Nancy Hammaker
Steve Kent
Christine Rudolphi
Marty Stanton

Staff: *Martha Ridsdale*
Dr. Susan McAdoo
Terry Armstrong
Mary-Esther Arther

Parish Administrator
Music Director
Sexton
Vision's Editor

St. David's is a sponsoring congregation of The Oasis, the outreach ministry of The Episcopal Diocese of Newark to the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender community.

St. David's is a member of Greenfaith: Interfaith Partner in Action for the Earth.

