



The Mission of St. David's Church is to nurture all who are seeking to make the teachings of Christ meaningful in their lives so that our love and caring for one another through God extends into the community and the world.

January 2008



*When the star in the sky is gone,
When the Kings and Princes are home,
When the shepherds are back with their flocks,
The work of Christmas begins:
 To find the lost
 To heal the broken
 To feed the hungry
 To release the prisoner
 To teach the nations
 To bring Christ to all
 To make music in the heart.
— Howard Thurman*

May we be given the grace to bring the hope of Christmas alive in the year ahead.

Please continue to be generous to our outreach initiatives by purchasing grocery cards for the Kinnelon Food Pantry and Neighbor Outreach Program.

**PLEASE NOTE:
FAST FOR PEACE
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 16**

Fast from sunrise to sunset

Break the fast with a simple (not potluck) supper at church at 7:00 pm
Participate in the Prayer Vigil from 7:30 pm to 8:00 pm



From The Rector

There is a retreat program for Episcopal priests called “**Credo.**” The word credo can be translated as “I believe.” A truer definition of it, however, is this “**I give my heart to.**”

Sponsored by the Episcopal Church Pension Fund, the intention of the eight days away is to support Episcopal priests in their efforts to give their hearts to Christ while increasing their health in four areas: spirituality, vocation, health and finances. The retreat is held in several parts of the country each year. On the average, twenty to twenty five priests in our Church attend each one. I have been invited a couple of times, but I have declined since the timing has not seemed exactly right for me. I hope to go when I am invited next time.

I know that worship and conversation are integral parts of these retreats. It is hoped that because of these some kind of renewal takes place and a priest is again ready to give his/her heart to God. For some of the participants, it becomes clear that life and ministry changes need to be made. For others, this retreat time is a re-affirmation that all is well. As a contemporary song writer, Jana Stanfield, writes: “*Here and now, you have all that you need.*” Whatever is discerned for the priest, one is invited to make a commitment to give heart, body, mind and soul once again to Jesus Christ, with the intention of living that call in the here and now.

As you may know, in the parish ministry one is stretched and tested at times. I want you to know that through it all, I have continued to take daily prayer time and stay centered in the remembrance of what becomes clear to us as we move forward in this place as the people of God. While we never know what might be in store for us whether as leaders or members, we can rest assured that here and now, God does give us all that we need.

Now, as we move from Christmas to the Epiphany season, we share in the start of a new year. I ask that you consider this time as a “Credo” experience of your own. To whom or what will you give your heart this year? How will it positively impact your health? Your generosity with money? Your sense of vocation or work in the world? Your relationship with God and others? These are questions requiring some inner work and thoughtfulness. I invite you to set aside some quiet time for yourself on a regular basis to pray and ponder.

This is how we keep Christmas and usher in the New Year – by giving our hearts again to God.

With season’s blessing,

David

PARISH ANNUAL MEETING

The Parish Annual Meeting will be held on Sunday, January 13, during a single worship service that will begin at 9:30 am. Thanksgivings will be offered to our outgoing leaders and there will be the election of new leaders and reports by the rector, senior warden and treasurer. Results of the recent visioning process “Together into God’s Future” will also be reported. An extended Church School session is being offered for our children during the meeting. All are welcome to come to worship as usual. Members in good standing will be voting in the election and other appropriate business on the agenda. If you are not sure whether you are an official parish member, please contact the parish office.

DISCOVERY HOUR RESUMES FOR ADULTS

On Sunday, January 20, we will resume our Discovery Hour at 9:00 am. We will continue with a study of the gospels. Since this is year A in our lectionary, we will be studying Matthew’s gospel. There is no homework but a book purchase is necessary. The cost is \$15.00 for N.T. Wright’s book Matthew for Everyone. Call the office or speak to the rector by Sunday, January 13, if you want to order the book.

NEW MEMBERS CLASS

Learn about the Episcopal Church and how to become a member of St. David’s! This class is for adults who want to be received from another tradition/denomination or confirmed in the Episcopal Church. It is also for those who are just curious about the history, beliefs and practices of Episcopalians. Our first meeting will be held on Sunday, February 17, but you will need to contact the rector by January 20 so that enough materials can be prepared. The classes will meet on Sundays after the 10:15 am Service throughout the winter and spring in preparation for a regional Confirmation/Reception Welcoming Service at our Cathedral in Newark on Sunday afternoon, May 18th.

UNITED THANK OFFERING

THE UNITED THANK OFFERING INGATHERING will take place at both services on January 20. Bring the boxes you've been filling at during 2007, use one of the special envelopes available in the narthex, and take the box home with you to use for another year. You don't have a box? Help yourself! (Boxes are in the tract rack throughout the year.) Thank you for your generosity!



Men's Group

STAR LIGHT, STAR BRIGHT! The meeting on January 21 at 7:30 pm will deal with astronomy. An amateur astronomer will be present to discuss astronomy, astrophotography, and weather permitting, provide us with unique views of the heavens with a sophisticated telescope system.

DIOCESAN CONVENTION

THE ANNUAL DIOCESAN CONVENTION will be held on January 25 and 26. Your prayers are asked for everyone who will attend.

ALTAR FLOWERS

THE BRAND NEW 2008 flower calendar is posted at the foot of the balcony stairs - the early bird gets first choice! The weekly altar arrangements can be given as memorials or thank-offerings. The forms to be used are hanging with the calendar - when completed, they should be put in Martha's mailbox. **REMINDER** - more than one person can sign up for a particular Sunday.

SAVE THE DATE!

What: Transgender Forum

When: Sunday, January 27

Where: Large Skylight Room

Why: This educational forum is part of our commitment to the Oasis Ministry of the Diocese (The Oasis is the Outreach Ministry to the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender community and their supporters.)

Who: We will have two guest speakers who will tell us about their journeys of gender identity.

Notes from Sister Shane

Thanks for your tremendous response to the Giving Tree and Dine and Donate on December 2. With the terrible weather, I was doubly surprised when you took all of the tags for the children in need. I'm even more excited seeing everything come back – I feel like Santa Claus! Thanks especially to the Men's Group, and some anonymous donors who enabled us to buy gifts for everyone on our list.

Dine and Donate went very well. Sr. Lura Grace, CSJB and Lois from the Community Soup Kitchen of Morristown were on hand to talk about the needs in Morris County and what the Soup Kitchen and Interfaith Food Pantry does to help. They were very pleased with our interest. I hope it is the beginning of something enduring. The Bible Tree preparations and Advent wreath making added to the festivities. Thanks to Polly Barker for her creativity and organization of that event.

Our Quiet Day on December 8 was just that: quiet! Nine of us spent the day at the Convent of St. John Baptist, reflecting on the Christmas story in Matthew's Gospel. We followed stars and dreamed dreams, and thought about seeing Christ in one another. I am grateful for the chance to spend time in prayer and sharing with others from St. David's, and I look forward to the Lenten Quiet Day scheduled for March 8.

Drew Theological School requires its seminarians to have a Teaching Committee at their parish. When I came to St. David's, I worked with them on a Learning/Serving Covenant describing my goals and responsibilities. The committee meets monthly to reflect on my progress, and to share their journeys of faith and ministry. I am more grateful than I can say for my committee, which is chaired by Ginny Bussey and includes Mary-Esther Arther, Al Joseph, Joan Carpenter, and Rodger Pisani. They are faithful and supportive – and honest!

One of the roles of the Committee is to pass along comments or suggestions from the rest of the parish. If you have something you would like me to know or do, or any feedback to offer, please grab a member of the committee and let them know. Thank you!

And last but not least: One of my dreams is to start (revive?) a Women's Group at St. David's. This would not be a service group (though who knows what people might decide to do?), but would begin as a monthly time for women to share their lives and their faith (or lack of it!) in an atmosphere of support. I don't know if anyone shares this dream. If you do, let me know. You can reach me at (973) 543-4641 x6, or at srshane@csjb.org, or through the office.

Merry Christmas, and a blessed Epiphany to all!

MISSIONER MUSINGS YOUTH HAPPENINGS!!

THE FIRST CHURCH SCHOOL evening fun night took place on November 30. Grace O'Connor, Jake Stanton, Paul Gillan, Paige and Neil Verroca, and Grace's friend Emily Shwab all filled their tummies with pizza and juice and played fun games together. They even gave our new ping-pong table a try! Every child had fun learning the Christmas story during craft time, when they made Advent bracelets. A huge thank-you goes out to our wonderful teachers Laurie Pisani and Linda O'Connor; and to our aide Sara Webb for running this event along with ALL they do for our children. Other helpers that night were Janine Gillan, Brian O'Connor and Jayne Verdonik. Thanks to everyone's help a fun time was had by all. Please mark your calendars and bring a friend to our next Church School Evening Fun Night scheduled for Friday, January 25, at 6 pm.

On December 2, the first Sunday of Advent, it was time to decorate ornaments for our Bible Tree. The Bible tree consists of a variety of symbols that are related to Jesus and His birth. The salt-dough was made, rolled, cut out and baked ahead of time by Eric Stanton, Jamie and Danielle Ferrara, Tracy and Sara Webb, Nancy Hammaker, Polly Barker and Jayne Verdonik at one of our Wednesday night meetings. Those who were involved in decorating the Bible Tree ornaments were Grace O'Connor, Deanna and A.J. Fanelli, Dominique Molee, Jake Stanton, Ava Lutz, Brooke, Paige and Neil Verroca. Please take a few moments to admire this beautiful tree in the narthex and try to see how many symbols you know; then check your answers with the Bible Tree pamphlet. A huge THANK YOU to Polly Barker for organizing this wonderful project to start our Advent journey! Special thanks go out to Sara Webb for helping Polly organize and set up all the supplies. And to Dina Fanelli, Janine Gillan and Joan Molee for helping the children. The students kept checking that all the symbols were included!

On Wednesday, December 5, the youth group and leaders went on a shopping trip to purchase gifts for those families in need through our Giving Tree. Let me tell you about community and a plan coming together: Sister Shane reached out to our community to see who needed help for the holidays; the Mens Group donated a sizable amount of funds toward some of the gifts, and the Youth Group went shopping for some of those on our Giving tree list!! Talk about a group effort!!! The shoppers were Tracy and Sara Webb, Rodger Pisani, Sister Shane and Jayne Verdonik.

On Sunday, December 9, our teens and tweens joined forces to bring the Christmas story and carols to 22 residents of Merry Heart Nursing Home. Those who brought the joy of Christmas to these lovely seniors were James Hitchings, Mary and Abby Fisher, Eric Stanton, Dan Collins, Evan Lutz, Matt Zajac, Tracy and Sara Webb, Sister Shane, Polly Barker, Marty Stanton, Katherine Hahn, John and Tina Hitchings, and Jayne Verdonik. The teens & tweens took turns narrating the Christmas story, and everyone joined in singing our beloved Carols. Jesus said, "The least you do for my people, you do for me." Thank you for serving Jesus through your outreach to the residents of Merry Heart!

The teens and tweens once again gave of their time, talent and treasures on Wednesday, December 12, to create beautiful luminaries used to light our pathway to church on Christmas Eve! Those who helped out were Danielle and Jamie Ferrara, James Hitchings, Tracy and Sara Webb and Jayne Verdonik. Though we tried to make distinct Christmas designs in the middle of the bags, we definitely experienced some technical difficulties! However, if one way doesn't work we try another! Various designs were created using the cool paper punches that Martha Ridsdale supplied for us! We enjoyed homemade cookies baked by Danielle, Jamie and Jayne; drank hot chocolate; listened to Christian Rock and Christmas music as we worked on the bags. Of course lively conversation was enjoyed by all! We hope everyone enjoyed the beauty of the Christmas Light!



Thank You!
THANK YOU!

FOR THOSE WHO TOOK TIME from their busy schedules to erect the nativity scene on December 15 - Julie and Chris Dolci, Dick Foster, Art and Paul Gillan, Brian O'Connor, Mike Odian, Sr. Shane, and Tom Snyder.

FOR THE APPEARANCE OF ST. NICHOLAS on December 16, in spite of that dreaded "mixed precipitation"! He was gracious and impressive as always, especially in his new mitre crafted by Cathy Fisher. Thanks to everyone who filled the overflowing boxes for North Porch and Strengthen Our Sisters.

FOR THOSE BUSY PEOPLE who willingly remained after the 10::15 Service on December 23 to assist the Altar Guild in decorating the church for the Christmas Services: Polly Barker, David DeSmith, Mary and Abby Fisher, Caroline Mossip, Brian O'Connor and Mike, Kaitlin and Kristen Roehrer.

FOR THE SPECIAL CHRISTMAS EVE PAGEANT made possible by the young readers - Deanna Fanelli, Evan Lutz, Dominique Molee, Grace O'Connor, Eric Stanton, Jake Stanton, Neil Verroca, Paige Verroca; Mary Fisher reading the prayers of the people; the adults - Dina Fanelli, Vickie Lutz, Joan Molee, Linda O'Connor, Marty and Candace Stanton.

FOR EVERYONE who contributed toward the wreaths and poinsettias that make St. David's especially beautiful at Christmas; the Altar Guild for their dedicated work; the acolytes, Eucharistic Ministers, lectors, choir and music director, especially Sacha Iskra's solo and Andrew Scarpelli's trumpet music - all of whose service and devotion added to the meaning of the season.

FOR ALL THOSE SPECIAL PARISHIONERS who during November and December gave so generously in food cards for the Kinnelon Food Pantry and the neighborhood outreach recipients; those who responded so overwhelmingly to the Giving Tree project; Sondra Odian and her elves who made sure the ornaments and decorations collected earlier this year were delivered in time for distribution to needy families in Kinnelon and Butler.

CHRISTMAS (turn around twice) LENT!

MARDI GRAS BRUNCH

Once again we invite one and all to this family event on Sunday, February 3 - a last chance at merriment before Lent. Since this is also Super Bowl Sunday, we are having a big-bash-brunch after the later service rather than a evening party. There will be plenty to eat (including gumbo and jambalaya, as well as macaroni and cheese for the less adventurous) and drink (we'll supply both alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages.) Everyone is welcome and there will be gifts for the kids. A goodwill offering is encouraged but not required. There will be a sign-up sheet in the narthex - the deadline is Monday, January 28. Volunteers are needed to cook at home (easy prep, with ingredients supplied by us) and to set up and clean up. To volunteer or for more information contact event coordinators Pat Crane (973-838-5740) or John Simonelli (973-492-0284). As this is Super Bowl Sunday the Youth Group will be sponsoring the Souper Bowl of Caring to help feed the hungry. Look for the giant kettle in the back of the church on your way to Brunch.

SHROVE TUESDAY PANCAKE SUPPER - FEBRUARY 5

ASH WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 6



Oprah Winfrey was one step behind the St. David's Readers Circle. We read "The Pillars of the Earth" back in September! Do you suppose she might be checking out our amazing reading list?

"EAT, PRAY, LOVE", by Elizabeth Gilbert, is the February 4 book selection. It is an engaging, readable, intelligent and funny memoir as well as a meditation on love of food, language, humanity, God and self. It is the author's accounting of an extraordinary journey to find God. Linda O'Connor will lead the discussion.

- March 3 - A THOUSAND SPLENDID SUNS, Khaled Hosseini
- April 7 - THE BONESETTER'S DAUGHTER, Amy Tan
- May 5 - A SEVERED WASP, Madeleine L'Engle
- June 2 - BROTHERS: A NOVEL, Da Chen

The Readers Circle meets on the first Monday of each month, 7:30-9:00 PM, in the Large Skylight Room. All are welcome to join in the discussions. If you haven't read the book but are curious to know what we are all about, please join us. Light refreshments are served.

Vestry Notes

From the meeting of December 20 -

- * Approved the date and agenda for the annual meeting.
- * Accepted, with regret, the resignation of Paul Pusecker.
- * Reviewed and approved the quarterly grant report.
- * Approved the 2008 budget.

Average Attendance

December 2006
70

December 2007
64

WITH SYMPATHY

Our prayers and condolences are extended to Candace Stanton on the death of her father, Ed Strobach.

Word has been received of the death of Myrtle Wachter, a long-time active member. She was an officer of the ECW and served as Church School superintendent.

"Rest eternal grant unto the, O Lord, and let light perpetual shine upon them."

PARISH REGISTER

Funeral - Richard Schaupp, December 3, 2007

The King shall come when morning dawns,
And light and beauty brings”
ADVENT WORKSHOP



ST. NICHOLAS AND OUTREACH INGATHERING



While shepherds watched their flocks by night,
All seated on the ground,
The angel of the Lord came down,
And glory shone around.



The Pageant Players:

A.J. Fanelli, Deanna Fanelli, Paul Gillan, Ava Lutz, Evan Lutz, Dominique Molee,
Grace O'Connor, Sister Shane Phelan, Jen Roberts, Jake Stanton, Eric Stanton,
Brooke Verroca, Neil Verroca, Paige Verroca



CHERISH THE EARTH

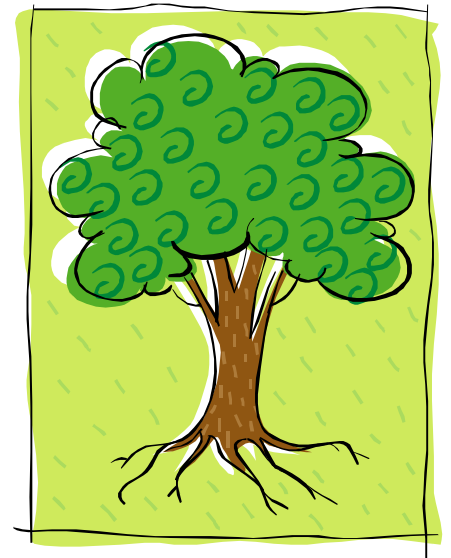
THE JCK INVITES THE COMMUNITY TO A
“TU B’SHEVAT SEDER”,
(A PROGRAM MODELED ON THE PASSOVER SEDER)
FOCUSING ON OUR RELATIONSHIP TO NATURE
& THE ENVIRONMENT

Friday, January 18
7:30 – 9:00 PM.

For Adults and Teens
At the JCK, 91 Kinnelon Road

Tu B’Shevat is the Jewish festival known as the New Year of the Trees. Jewish tradition has always honored trees for the food, shade and shelter they provide. The custom of holding a Tu B’Shevat Seder dates back to the 16th century. Rabbi Ettinger will lead our seder, a combination of readings, songs, food and four cups of grape juice (representing the four seasons). Join us for this multi-sensory way to explore our obligation to cherish the earth.

**For more information contact the JCK office:
973-838-5566 or jckinnelon@verizon.net**



Sponsored by the Jewish Congregation of Kinnelon
in recognition of the work of Kinnelon Conserves.

JANUARY 2008

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1 New Year's Day (Office Closed)	2 12:15 pm Noonday Prayer 4:00 pm Tai Chi Chih	3 10 am HE/Healing 11 am Parish Staff Mtg. 12:15 am Noonday Prayer 7:30 pm Special Vestry Meeting	4	5
6 8:00 am Holy Eucharist ***** 9:15 am No Discovery Hour Choir Rehearsal 10:15 am Church School 10:15 am Youth Group 10:15 am Holy Eucharist 11:30 am Coffee Hour	7 12:15 pm Noonday Prayer 7 pm Seminararian's Teaching Com.	8 12:15 pm Noonday Prayer	9 12:15 pm Noonday Prayer 4:00 pm Tai Chi Chih 4:30 pm Rector & Wardens Meeting 7:30 pm Youth Group	10 10 am HE/Healing 12:15 pm Noonday Prayer 7:30 pm Growth Commission	11	12
13 ***** 9:30 am No Discovery Hour Holy Eucharist with Parish Annual Meeting 9:30 am Church School 9:30 am Youth Group 10:00 am Merry Heart 11:30 am Coffee Hour	14 12:15 pm Noonday Prayer	15 12:15 pm Noonday Prayer	16 Fast for Peace 12:15 pm Noonday Prayer 4:00 pm Tai Chi Chih 7:00 pm Break Fast 7:30 pm Prayer Vigil 7:30 pm Youth Group	17 10 am HE/Healing 11 am Parish Staff Mtg. 12:15 pm Noonday Prayer 7:30 pm Vestry Meeting	18	19 9:00 am – 2:00 pm Mutual Ministry Review
20 Epiphany 2 UTO Ingathering 8:00 am Holy Eucharist 9:00 am Discovery Hour 9:15 am Choir Rehearsal 10:15 am Church School 10:15 am Youth Group 10:15 am Holy Eucharist 11:30 am Coffee Hour 11:30 am Pastoral Care Team	21 Martin Luther King Jr. Day (Office Closed) 7:30 pm Men's Group	22 12:15 pm Noonday Prayer	23 12:15 pm Noonday Prayer 4:00 pm Tai Chi Chih 7:30 pm Youth Group 7:30 pm Worship & Music Commission	24 10 am HE/Healing 12:15 pm Noonday Prayer	25 Diocese Convention	26 Diocese Convention
27 8:00 am Holy Eucharist 9:00 am Discovery Hour 9:15 am Choir Rehearsal 10:15 am Holy Eucharist / Family Worship 11:30 am Coffee Hour 11:45 am Oasis Presentation	28 12:15 am Noonday Prayer Mission & Ministry Night 5:30 pm Christian Formation 7:30 pm Stewardship	29 12:15 pm Noonday Prayer	30 12:15 pm Noonday Prayer 4:00 pm Tai Chi Chih 7:30 pm Youth Group	31 10 am HE/Healing 11 am Parish Staff Mtg. 12:15 pm Noonday Prayer		

St. David's Leadership Team

The Mission of St. David's Church is to nurture all who are seeking to make the teachings of Christ meaningful in their lives so that our love and caring for one another through God extends into the community and the world.

Bishop:	<i>The Rt. Rev. Mark Beckwith</i>	
Rector:	<i>The Rev. David J. DeSmith</i>	
Senior Warden:	<i>Brian Bussey</i>	<i>Parish Growth Chair</i>
Junior Warden:	<i>Linda O'Connor</i>	<i>Stewardship & Christian Formation</i>
Vestry:	<i>Mary-Esther Arther (Treasurer)</i>	<i>Worship & Music, Pastoral Care</i>
	<i>Nancy Ward (Clerk)</i>	
	<i>Nancy Hammaker</i>	<i>Christian Formation Chair</i>
	<i>Robert Hengeveld</i>	<i>Stewardship</i>
	<i>John Hitchings</i>	<i>Stewardship, Technology & Systems</i>
	<i>Caroline Mossip</i>	<i>Christian Formation</i>
	<i>Mike Odian</i>	<i>Growth, Outreach Chairperson</i>
	<i>Judy Tattersall</i>	<i>Stewardship</i>
Staff:	<i>Parish Administrator</i>	<i>Martha Ridsdale</i>
	<i>Music Director</i>	<i>Dr. Susan McAdoo</i>
	<i>Missioner for Youth & Families Ministries</i>	<i>Jayne Verdonik</i>
	<i>Seminarian</i>	<i>Sister Shane Margaret Phelan</i>
	<i>Sexton</i>	<i>Terry Armstrong</i>
	<i>Nursery Supervisor</i>	<i>Brittany Temple</i>
	<i>Vision's Editor</i>	<i>Mary-Esther Arther</i>

