

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*

SEPTEMBER 2009



## *Reunion Sunday September 13*

8:00 am Holy Eucharist

9:15 am Choir Rehearsal

\*\*\*\*\* Time and Talent Signup \*\*\*\*\*

DISCOVER WAYS TO SHARE YOURSELF  
WITH YOUR ST. DAVID'S FAMILY

10:15 am Holy Eucharist

POTLUCK REUNION BRUNCH



## Warden's Message – September 2009

If I can stop one heart from breaking,  
I shall not live in vain;  
If I can ease one life the aching,  
Or cool one pain,  
Or help one fainting robin  
Unto his nest again,  
I shall not live in vain.

This is my favorite poem by Emily Dickinson. To me it is a reflection of how we at St. David's help each other and our broader community by reaching out in so many ways. When I was first introduced to St. David's by a friend, many years ago, at the time I was looking for a place where I could raise my children in faith and give them a foundation they could base their lives upon. I was also looking for a place where I could continue my own spiritual journey. I found that, but so much more. During times of personal need, I was supported and raised up by church members in a way that helped me to continue in my faith journey.

Over the years, I have come to appreciate the many ways in which we reach out to each other and our neighbors, both near and far. I think of how each one of us, young and old, have helped in large and small ways in our various outreach ministries. Which ones have you, or your children, participated in? I recently started a list, which included: Willing Hands, St. Paul's Shelter, Interfaith Council for the Homeless, Brake the Hunger Cycle Tour, Merry Heart Retirement Community, R.I.S.E., Food Pantry, Children's Outreach Fair, Books for Cameroon, North Porch Women and Infants Center, Strengthen Our Sisters, Worship Service at Cedar Crest, visiting the sick at home or hospital, and bringing Communion to those who cannot come to church because of infirmity. I may have missed a few areas of outreach, but a glance over the list shows how our St. David's family truly understands what it is to be a caring community, one that shows God's love in our actions, not just in words.

I think it is particularly important for our children to understand the concept of reaching out and helping others. Helping others in a time of need can help each one of us grow into a better person. I don't know who wrote this, but I love this quote, "A child is the only known substance from which a responsible adult can be made." We can all help to nurture our children to become responsible, caring adults by involving them in St. David's outreach activities. Have your child assist you in preparing food for the homeless, or collecting books and school supplies for children who have none, or assisting with the Episcopal Relief and Development (ERD) Outreach Fair, for example. There is no better way to learn how to value people above possessions and develop values to counteract the relenting pressures of our consumer society.

As we help our neighbors and ourselves, I think of the passage from Matthew 25: 37-40, which states: "Lord, when did we see You hungry and feed You, or thirsty and give You drink? When did we see You a stranger and take You in, or naked and clothe You? Or when did we see You sick, or in prison, and come to You?" And the King will answer and say to them, "Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did it to one of the least of these My brethren, you did it to Me."

Yours in faith,

Caroline Mossip  
Junior Warden

## ATTENDANCE

**August 2008**

**48**

**August 2009**

**46**

## HELP WANTED

**IT'S NOT TOO LATE** to sign up to help sell light sticks at the Kinnelon fireworks display on Friday, September 4! Just call John Hitchings at 972-283-4366 to volunteer.

## *Take Note*

**THE CHOIR WILL RESUME** on Sunday, September 13, with rehearsal at 9:15 am. New members are always welcomed!

## Men's Group

**THE FIRST MEETING** of the new season will be on Monday, September 21, at 7:30 pm in the large skylight room. Program to be announced.

## FELLOWSHIP

**FOYERS** is an active program at St. David's of breaking bread together and building Community. Small groups of individuals meet with each other throughout the year to share a meal and get to know each other.

How they do this is determined by the group. One person in each group who has been a member before will be asked to begin the initial meeting. Then the group meets together and sets their own rules for gathering - where, what, and when. Groups can meet in members' houses, the parish hall, or "partnering" with someone else. No one is required to "host" the group, as there are always people willing to do that. In the past, a group has gone dancing, several groups had pool parties, and most just enjoyed an evening together.

**Now** is the time to sign up and be part of this very fun St. David's activity. The Kick-Off Dinner is scheduled for **Saturday, September 26, at 6 p.m. in the parish hall**. At this time all individuals who want to join Foyers gather and share an evening of eating and fellowship. Sign up, come with a dish to share, and be part of this lively group of wonderful people. Small groups will be formed after this meeting and you will be notified. The groups are rearranged each year so that all can get the opportunity to meet and get to know everyone over time.

If you cannot attend the 26th and wish to be part of FOYERS, just sign up in the place indicated. Master sign up is in the narthex or you can call the office (973-838-6696) and ask Martha to sign you up. If you have any questions, you can call Ginny Bussey (973-838-1470) or ask anyone who has a small green circle on their name chain.

Join us in this great way of building community!



**PLANS ARE UNDERWAY!** As you know from the midsummer issue, the Beefsteak Dinner and Silent Auction will take place on Saturday, October 17. Bidding and social hour start at 5:00 pm; dinner at 6:00; bidding ends at 7:30 pm.

**TICKETS WILL GO ON SALE SEPTEMBER 14!** The cost is \$40 per person for the beefsteak or \$20 per person for an adult pasta dinner. The price for children (12 and under) is \$20 for the beefsteak or \$5 for a pasta dinner. BYOB. You can purchase tickets after both services on Sundays or in the office Monday-Friday, 9:00 am to 1:00 pm.

We are also looking for donations for the silent auction. Last year we raised over \$7,000 with the auction alone. Just think what we can do this year! This is our major fundraiser for the year and we need everyone's support in one form or another.

Here are a list of ideas for items:

- Use of a vacation home for a period of time
- Tickets to sporting events
- Wine or Liquor baskets
- Food baskets
- Family entertainment baskets - movies, gift cards, popcorn, etc.
- Family game basket - Popular family games
- Book basket - some bestsellers, a curl-up blanket , a booklight
- Certificate for a service - For example - Do you have a pool? Offer a pool party for 4 kids in your home.
- Are you a financial planner - offer a one hour consultation.
- High-quality antiques or collectibles
- Gourmet meal or catering services
- Candle basket
- Death by Chocolate (no explanation needed!)
- A new baby basket
- Homemade items - quilts, blankets, etc.



There will be a signup sheet in the narthex. **All donations must be received no later than October 11!**

When putting together baskets, please keep the following in mind:

Attractive baskets/items bring in the most money

Please provide a description of the items in the basket, and don't forget to include your name!

If you aren't sure how to arrange the basket, just bring the supplies and one of our expert basket makers will put it together for you.

If you are donating something that is for pickup or use later, please be sure to include a detailed description and pictures!

Make sure the items are first quality and unused, unless it is an antique or otherwise specified.

Get creative – handmade items are always a plus!

Any questions – call Linda O'Connor or John Hitchings

### **NEEDED**

People to solicit ads; put together the program; help make baskets; help the day of the event; help after the event!

October 17 will be here before we know it!

Sign up in the narthex!

# Deacon Shane

Is it fall already? Yes indeed. It's not only "Back to School" month; it's "Back to St. David's" month! We have some great ways to get back in the swing of things. After our Reunion Sunday on September 13, the Women's Group returns on the 14<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 p.m. in the Skylight Room. Stacey Ferraro has agreed to share the leadership of this group this year; thanks, Stacey! Women are welcome to join us for reflection and conversation. Bring a snack or a drink to share.

The following Sunday, September 20, we will have an Adult Forum on our many outreach programs. The purpose of this meeting is both to let all of you know what is happening in outreach and how you can be a part of that work, and to think about the future of outreach. Are we doing what God calls us to do in our communities? Are the ministries we have supported still our priorities, or is God calling us to new and different work? How can we be most effective in our outreach? Join me and others for feedback and brainstorming.

Then, there's still more fun to be had. On September 27 we'll have an Adult Forum on "Everything You Always Wanted to Know About the Episcopal Church - but Were Afraid to Ask." This is the first of two forums - the second will be on October 11. We will look at the history of the Church, our distinctive approach to worship and doctrine, and the changes over time in our views on social issues. If you are new to the Episcopal Church, or coming back after a time away, this is your chance to ask all those questions that keep you up at night. If you are a long-time member, come and keep me honest in my answers.

## Readers Circle

Attention book lovers! If you love talking about the books you have read, you will love the St. David's reading group, which opens the year on Monday, October 5th, with Ken Follett's sequel to *The Pillars of the Earth*; *World Without End*. The Readers Circle will begin discussion of *World Without End* at 7:30 pm in the large skylight room. Two centuries after the completion of the Gothic Cathedral in his first novel, Follett's characters find themselves at a crossroads of new ideas about medicine, commerce, architecture and justice, with the devastating backdrop of the Black Death. The Readers Circle meets each month through June, on the first Monday of the month. For more information: [www.readerscircle@stdavidskinnelon.org](mailto:www.readerscircle@stdavidskinnelon.org).

## Reminder

**THE MEDITATION GROUP** meets every Monday afternoon, 5:15 - 6:00 pm. Come whenever and as frequently as you can.



# Vestry Notes

From the meeting of August 6 -

- \* Plans for our 50th anniversary observance were discussed, including an oral history compilation and a joint outreach project with the JCK.
- \* A rough draft of a guide to the Eucharist service was presented for discussion. This would be available in the pew racks for visitors, newcomers, and anyone not familiar with the Episcopal Church.
- \* It was voted to allocate the bike tour income as \$3,000 to the New Jersey Food Bank especially for this area and \$9,000 to address water problems in Central and South America.
- \* Reviewed and approved the proposed calendar for 2009- 2010.

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

Receipts - \$111,583 / \$116,085

Disbursements - \$114,426 / \$112,864

## T'AI CHI CHIH



T'AI CHI CHIH is a moving meditation with twenty gentle, low-impact movements which relax your body and quiet your mind. These simple movements circulate and balance the Chi (Life Force) and cultivate a sense of peace. You can do this, regardless of your age or physical ability, just by adapting the movements to your comfortable range of motion. Other health benefits reported as a result of regular practice of T'ai Chi Chih: relief of pain and stress; regulation of blood pressure; improved balance, circulation and stamina; stronger heart, lungs and bones; greater mental clarity and emotional balance; and strengthened immune system.

The free practice sessions of this low-impact exercise and meditation program continue every Wednesday afternoon, 4:00 – 5:00 pm in the large skylight room. For more information about the sessions or inquiries about lessons, please contact [www.taichichih@stdavidskinnelon.org](mailto:www.taichichih@stdavidskinnelon.org)

## *Best Wishes*

To Jeanne Wertheimer and her companion Chris Constantinou, who have moved to his homeland of Cyprus. Know that you are in our prayers - we will miss you and hope to see you again. If you would like to send her an email her address is [JeanneLW@HVC.rr.com](mailto:JeanneLW@HVC.rr.com)

# Dining at David's 2009



# R.I.S.E. MISSION TRIP 2009



I went into my second year of RISE much more prepared than my first; I knew the routine, the people and what was expected from me. But I forgot how much helping your family affects you. This year my team's family consisted of one woman who became attached to us after the end of the first day, and we became close to her. In the five days it took to rebuild part of her roof, she had come out to talk to us during our breaks, give us cooking

tips, tell us about her life, show her sense of humor, taught me how to pull pranks on my sister and baked us a lot of desserts. Thank you to everyone who made this experience possible; it really was one of the best weeks of my summer.

Mary Fisher



**The Oasis presents**

**An Adult Forum on Marriage Equality**

***A Not-So-Civil Union: Why Civil Unions  
Are Not Working in NJ***

**Sunday, October 25, 2009**

**11:45 AM to 12:45 PM**

**St. David's Episcopal Church  
91 Kinnelon Road  
Kinnelon, NJ 07405**

**Beginning with a short DVD from Garden State Equality about civil union inequality, keynote Speaker Matthew Piermatti, Esq. will offer legal support of why civil unions are not working and why we need marriage equality. An open discussion will follow.**

**\* \* All Are Invited \* \***

**We especially encourage same-sex couples who would like to get married but cannot to attend this event.**

# SEPTEMBER 2009

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		<b>1</b>	<b>2</b> 11:30 am Holy Eucharist 12:00 pm Lunch and Bible Study 4:00 pm Tai Chi Chih	<b>3</b> 12:15 pm Noonday Prayer	<b>4</b> Kinnelon's Fireworks Light Stick Sale	<b>5</b>
<b>6</b> 8:00 am Holy Eucharist 9:00 am Coffee Minute 10:15 am Holy Eucharist 11:30 am Iced Tea & Lemonade	<b>7</b> Labor Day Office Closed	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b> 11:30 am Holy Eucharist 12:00 pm Lunch and Bible Study 4:00 pm Tai Chi Chih St. Anthony's Shelter	<b>10</b> 12:15 pm Noonday Prayer	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>13</b> <b>15</b> REUNION SUNDAY TIME & TALENT SIGNUP 8:00 am Holy Eucharist 9:00 am Coffee Minute 9:15 am Choir Rehearsal 10:00 am Merry Heart 10:15 am Holy Eucharist 11:30 am Potluck Brunch	<b>14</b> 5:15 pm Meditation Group 7:30 pm Women's Group	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b> 11:30 am Holy Eucharist 12:00 pm Lunch and Bible Study 4:00 pm Tai Chi Chih	<b>17</b> 12:15 pm Noonday Prayer 7:30 pm Vestry Meeting	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>20</b> <b>16</b> PENTECOST 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 11:45 am Adult Forum	<b>21</b> 5:15 pm Meditation Group 7:30 pm Men's Group	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> 11:30 am Holy Eucharist 12:00 pm Lunch and Bible Study 4:00 pm Tai Chi Chih	<b>24</b> 12:15 pm Noonday Prayer	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> 6:00 pm Foyers Kick-off Dinner
<b>27</b> <b>17</b> PENTECOST 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 11:45 am Adult Forum	<b>28</b> 5:15 pm Meditation Group	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> 11:30 am Holy Eucharist 12:00 pm Lunch and Bible Study 4:00 pm Tai Chi Chih			

# 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.*

