



The St. David's Epistle

Volume 3
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October 2014

St. David's Episcopal Church • 905 E. McMurray Rd., Venetia, PA 16367 • 724-941-4060
Pastoral Care Hotline (412) 780-6212, www.stdavidspst.org

Giving Our Hearts to God and to One Another

Over the next couple months you will be hearing about stewardship both at worship on Sundays and through mailings. "Stewardship" is one of the many churchy words that you will likely not hear outside of the church, but it is an important one for us and

forth and, last of all, God creates us. God looks over all that he has made and declares it "very good."

To us, God gives this "fragile earth, our island home" (BCP 370). It has everything we will ever need to thrive and grow. God com-

and other pollution we create.

The air we breathe. We talk about what is in our food and how it is grown and produced. *The food we eat.* We talk about how to alleviate sickness and preventable conditions around the world. The UN has even created the Millennium Development Goals as a roadmap to reduce poverty



worth explaining.

In the very beginning of the Bible, in the first book of the Torah, called Genesis, there is a story of two people, Adam and Eve. The story of Adam and Eve is a beautiful one of God's caring work of creation. In these first few pages of the Bible, God creates everything: the sun, the moon, the stars, and the earth. God separates earth from sky and land from water. In the depths of the oceans fish and other sea life come to be. On the land plants and animals spring

mands us to use it well, care for it, to take what we need, and rejoice in its beauty and wonder...to be good stewards.

Stewardship is the word the church uses to talk about our role as human beings in managing and caring for all that God has made and has given to us. From the air we breathe, to the food we eat, to the money we make, stewardship is about using it well.

We may not use the word, but stewardship is talked about constantly in our culture. We hear debate about our air and how much carbon

and need around the world.

The money we make.

The call to stewardship is all around us. These issues are central to the life of the Christian and it has nothing to do with rich or poor, strong or weak, Democrat or Republican. It has to do with one another. How we love one another. How we care for and serve one another.

The life of the Christian, the life you and I are called to, is not about doing all the right things or acting a certain way. It is not about how we vote or how we worship. It is about

Important Dates

October

- 17th St. Andrews Lecture with Dwight Zscheile, 8:00p.m.
- 20th Preschool Open House
- 25th Fall Clean-up Day

November

- 7th Parent's Night Out
- Daylight Savings Time Begins
- Nov. 7 & 8th Annual Diocesan Convention
- 4th Vestry Meeting
- 7th Parent's Night Out
- 9th Children's Ministry Outing
- 16th New Consecration Sunday: New Consecration Sunday is a very important day for St. David's when we make and celebrate our financial commitments to the parish for the coming year. We ask that all of our parishioners will make arrangements to join us that Sunday for worship and the luncheon that follows.
- 27th Thanksgiving
- 30th First Sunday in Advent

December

- 12th Preschool Pageant
- 21st Greening of the Church
- Fourth Sunday in Advent
- 24th Christmas Eve
- 4:00 Family Service w/ pageant
- 7:30 Candlelight Service w/carols

Supporting Your Godly Play Learner



Godly Play was introduced as our method teaching in our Children's Church in March. As detailed in the March edition of the newsletter, Godly Play is a storytelling method developed by Jerome Berryman in the 70's. The Godly Play method begins in a circle with the story presented with objects in the middle. The place is sacred, so we walk more quietly and more slowly. We sit in a certain way and quiet ourselves so we can hear what God wants to say to us in this story. After we watch the story unravel, we wonder about it together. The children are then able to choose their 'work'. They may choose to work on art, or they may choose to work with the story we used, or one of the other stories...as they think and wonder to themselves. We gather again in our circle for a small 'feast', conversation, and prayer, until we are dismissed back to the 'big church'.

Godly Play learning is a process which develops with the child. As the child develops and grows, so does his understanding and perceptions of the world.

Each time a child hears a Godly Play story, a different part may stand out for them, a new understanding may be formed. Supporting your Godly Play learner begins with helping them be ready. As much as possible help them be calm on the way to church, perhaps with calming music in the car. Remind them they are going to hear God's stories in Children's Church, and they need to be quiet to hear what God wants to say to them. After church, you may help them think about the story by asking them some wondering questions- "I wonder what story you heard in Children's Church today?", "I wonder what you saw there?", "I wonder what part of the story you liked the best?", "I wonder where you saw yourself in that story?", "I wonder what that story made you think about", "I wonder what you chose as your work?". Let all answers be okay. Also, let silence be okay. Give some time after each wondering question- they may not answer, but they will think, and that is the point of wondering. That wondering gives them the ability to apply wondering to other questions in their lives.

Jen Yoon

We're updating our Parish Directory. If you'd like to be added or would like to make changes to your current listing, please fill out the form below and mail it to: St. David's Episcopal Church, 905 E. McMurray PA, 15367.

St. David's Episcopal Church Directory Listing Form

FAMILY NAME _____

ADULTS & BIRTHDATES _____

ANNIVERSARY _____

CHILDREN & BIRTHDATES _____

(with years for children) _____

ADDRESS _____

PHONE NUMBER _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS _____

(Signature for permission to use in directory)

The Vestry at St. David's

What is the vestry? The vestry is the leadership team of the congregation who is responsible for the finances of the parish as well as the building. They work alongside Fr. Kris in overseeing the life of the church.

Currently there are ten members of the vestry. There are two Wardens, a Sr. Warden and Jr. Warden, who lead the vestry (and the parish in the absence of a Priest). The Jr. Warden is also responsible for the building and grounds. The vestry is divided into three committees-Administrative, Buildings & Grounds, and Ministry. Here are some examples of their work in the past six months:

The Administrative Committee has written job descriptions and created plans for the long term absence of all full and part-time staff. In the event of a vacancy in the church staff, they will assist Fr. Kris in hiring new staff. They also supervise the publication of the church directory and press releases.

Buildings and Grounds has determined and prioritized the repairs necessary to the building. They have written a detailed report and submitted grant applications to the diocese for funding. They also oversaw the addition of electrical outlets in the parking lot for the farmers' market. They are also organizing a "Fall Clean-up Day" for Saturday morning, Oct. 25.

The Ministry Committee oversees current ministries with Fr. Kris and



Beth White



Vincent Michalesko



Courtney Harter



Esther Kirchner



John Graham



Erin Janiak



Charlene Sonneborn



Tom Wolf

Not Pictured: Don Wood



David Hassick

explores new opportunities for worship and service. In November, we hope to participate in the Family Promise program to help provide housing and opportunities for homeless families in the area. They have also instituted a prayer chain among the vestry to address prayer requests.

Service on the vestry is open to all parishioners and a wonderful way to

serve the church. New members will be elected at our annual meeting in February. We encourage all to pray about their possible role in participating in this important ministry. Please contact our Jr. Warden, Vincent Michalesko, if you are interested in serving on the vestry or know someone you would like to nominate.

Giving...continued from pg 1

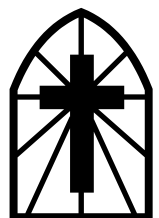
how we love. It is about a God who loves us so much that nothing we do, no matter how good or bad, can alter the fervor with which he loves and adores us. It is about God, through Jesus, putting away all of the ways we fall short so that we can know that love. It is about us giving our hearts in worship to God so that his love can change and restore us. It is about knowing freedom and living it, freedom from judgment and self-loathing. It's about embracing who we really are...beautiful creatures of God.

When you hear about stewardship this fall the focus will often be on money. Money is only a part of it, but it is a necessary one. To keep our various ministries going, to offer wonderful and warm worship, and to keep up with the many needs of the building we need money. And so all of us are asked to give generously.

But more important than keeping the church open is the spiritual benefit to all of us when we cultivate a spirit of generosity, service, and giving. The way we give is a part of our stewardship, but it is also a part of our spiritual maturity and growth. In the Gospel of Luke Jesus tells his disci-

ples, "Where your treasure is, there your heart will be also" (Lk 12:34). If you are like me, a big part of your heart is at St. David's. If so, please join me in giving generously to the life and ministry here. Thank you for being a part of this wonderful church. God bless.

Fr. Kris+



Budget Synopsis September 2014

	<u>Jan - Sep 14</u>	<u>YTD Budget</u>	<u>% of Budget</u>
Ordinary Income/Expense			
Income			
40000 - Pledges	38,288.25	39,537.00	96.79%
41500 - Non-Pledge Contributions	10,255.49	9,212.94	111.32%
41600 - Special Days	857.00	800.00	107.13%
43400 - Building Use Income	27,097.10	27,405.70	98.87%
46400 - Other Types of Income	6,360.92	6,034.95	105.4%
47500 - Subsidies	63,180.00	63,180.00	100.0%
49500 - Farmers' Market	7,055.45	6,500.00	108.55%
49700 - Youth Group	510.00	500.00	102.0%
49900 - Community Garden	750.00	750.00	100.0%
Total Income	154,334.21	153,920.59	100.27%
Gross Profit	154,334.21	153,920.59	100.27%
Expense			
62000 - Administration	3,975.09	4,368.69	90.99%
62800 - Facilities and Equipment	6,455.32	7,124.94	90.6%
63300 - Insurance Expense	7,476.00	8,300.00	90.07%
64600 - Ministry Expenses	8,556.29	7,628.60	112.16%
66000 - Payroll Expenses	94,980.62	94,060.54	100.98%
67200 - Repairs and Maintenance	23,587.95	22,489.94	104.88%
68600 - Utilities	24,623.60	23,735.97	103.74%
69400 - Off-Budget Purchases	279.31		
69500 - Discretionary Fund Expenditures	98.50		
Total Expense	170,032.68	167,708.68	101.39%
Net Ordinary Income	-15,698.47	-13,788.09	113.86%
Net Income	-15,698.47	-13,788.09	113.86%



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*Reaching out to warmly
welcome all.*