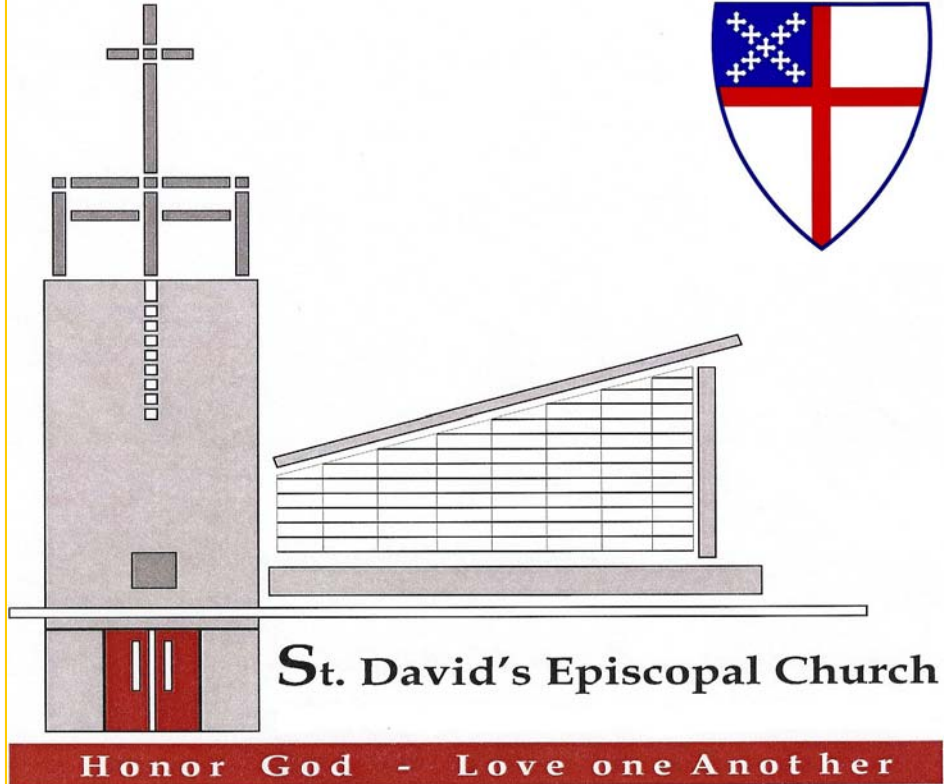


THE MESSENGER

January, 2011

www.stdavidschurch.com



Welcome to the New On-Line Edition

Beginning with this edition, the "Messenger" will be an all "on-line" edition meaning that we will no longer be printing the newsletter and mailing it out to everyone.

This change to the use of electronic transmission makes many things possible including more use of color pictures, wider circulation and a significant savings (about \$3000.00 per year) in expense.

Those who do not have an Internet connection will be given the opportunity to have a copy of the on-line edition printed for them and available for them to either pick-up at the office or have mailed to them.

In this edition please read an article about the upcoming visitation by Bishop Wolfe and the change in our Sunday schedule to accommodate the Confirmation service. Please join us on this festive Sunday to welcome our new confirmands and to join our Bishop in a reception following the service.

The Annual Parish Meeting is coming up on January 23rd. Please read about the Vestry candidates and information about the meeting.

Some minor changes have been taking place in our liturgies over the last few months, you may have wondered why.

This edition also includes information from the Daughters of the King, Youth and others.

Please let the office staff know what you think of the new layout and give us your suggestions.



Kirsten Goodman
Youth Coordinator
271-5144 or 580-7934
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Doorstep/Christmas Party

On December 12th, a dozen middle and high school kids helped load and unload trucks full of donations for the Doorstep Christmas Shop. They also helped organize the donations once they were inside. These kids worked really hard for 2 ½ hours in the cold. They did a great job. Afterwards, we all went back to the church and had our Christmas Party in the Youth Center. A good time was had by all.



Diocese of Kansas website,

Pictures on this page are from the recent parish Christmas vacation lock-in.

<http://www.episcopal-ks.org/youth/index.html>

Miqra is sure to be a fun and meaningful experience

Miqra (pronounced mee-krah) is an event for middle and high school kids that revolves around the bible. Miqra basically



refers to the tradition of reading the bible out loud. And that's what we're go-

ing to do, over the course of the weekend of January 15-17, we will read the bible out loud from Genesis through Revelation. Middle school kids will be at St. David's and high school kids will be at Grace Cathedral. Please encourage your

kids to participate. Kids from all across the Diocese will be there, so it's a great chance to make new friends and reconnect with old ones. For more information, contact Kirsten or visit the

Hope to see you there!

Roadrunner Hockey!

The Combined Youth Group will be going to the Saturday, January 29th Roadrunner game at the Expocenter. Since we will buy tickets in advance, please let Kirsten know if you are planning to attend! Call her at 785-272-5144 or email

kirsten@stdavidschurch.com.



Vestry Candidates Announced

Members of St. David's will have the opportunity to elect 4 of their fellow members to seats on the parish Vestry at the Annual Meeting on January 23, 2011. Three will be elected to three-year terms while one will be elected to fill the remaining one-year on an unexpired term. The Vestry Nominating Committee will propose the following as candidates.

Ronda Hoss was elected by the Vestry after the resignation of Connie Wold who is now serving as the Chair for Christian Formation for youth.



Ronda, her husband Wade and children Kenzie and Brogan live in rural Overbrook. Ronda was born in Guam while her father was serving in the U.S. Air Force. She later graduated from High School in Burrton, KS and attended Allen County Community College on a track/cross country scholarship. She graduated from Washburn University with a B.S. in Education and is currently employed by USD 501 as a third grade teacher. She finds her job very rewarding in watching her students achieve throughout the school year. Before being elected to the Vestry, she served as a Sunday school teacher and chair of the Christian Formation Ministry. She is also a lector. She is a candidate for the one-year term.

John Koepke is a long-time member of St. David's and recently retired as the Executive Director of the Kansas Association of School Boards having served in that po-

sition since 1983. Before becoming a part of KASB he was a High School History and



Government Teacher and High School Principal. He holds a BA degree from Kansas Wesleyan University in

Salina, and a MS from Kansas State University in Manhattan. John has been a part of the St. David's community since 1980 and recently served as a member of the Architecture and Design Committee. He is also a Eucharistic Minister and Lector. He is married to Sharon.

Kyle Smith earned his law degree from the University of Kansas in 1981 and for six years served as the prosecutor for Lyon County. In 1987 he was appointed Assistant Attorney General and general



counsel for the Kansas Bureau of Investigation (KBI). In 2001 he was promoted to Director of Public and Governmental Affairs and in 2005 he was again promoted to Deputy

Director of the KBI.

He is currently serving as the legal advisor to the Topeka Police Department.

A long-time member of St. David's, he currently serves as a Eucharistic Minister and lector. He has previously served as a Sunday school teacher, youth sponsor, Acolyte warden and as clerk of the Vestry. *(Continued next page)*

Lynette Palmer is married to Chris and



they are parents to three boys, Nick, Jack and Bradley. Lynette first started attending St. David's when she and Chris were dating, and she says she "has loved it and felt welcome ever since."

Lynette was born and raised in Topeka and graduated from Hayden High School and Washburn University with a degree in Exercise Physiology. She is currently working in the Physical Therapist assistant program.

In addition to being a Eucharistic Minister, Lynette is an avid KU fan, a fantastic cook and enjoys spending time with her parents and in-laws.

The Annual Meeting of St. David's Parish will be held beginning with the Holy Eucharist including the Rector's Annual Address at 10:45 A.M. on Sunday, January 23, 2011.

Reports from various groups are due by January 10th at 4:00 P.M. and will be published as they are received on our website (see page 7 for details).

The Annual Meeting will also nominate and elect a member to serve as its delegate to the Diocesan Convention and Convocational Meetings. That person will replace Sherri Newman who retires this year after six-years of service. The Annual Meeting will also be asked to ratify the election of Lynn Thompson as a member of the Endowment Board replacing George Webb who has served the last six-years.

Retiring from the Vestry this year are former Senior Warden Alan Fries, Current Senior Warden Alan Johnson and Heidi Wise.

According to the by-laws,

"Constituent members shall be communicants in good standing as determined by the Rector, who are sixteen (16) years of age or older, and who in the preceding year have contributed financially to the support of the Parish. Constituent members shall have the right to vote on all matters presented at the Annual Parish Meeting or at Special Parish Meeting or at Special Parish Meetings.

- a. Challenges to a person's right to vote shall be resolved by the presiding officer at the meeting.
- b. Constituent members will not vote by proxy.

Candidates for Vestry, and current Vestry members must also be pledging members of the parish. Clergy (Bishop's, Priests, and Deacons) who are a part of the parish are members of their order and thus not members of lay order nor members of the parish. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Following the Annual Meeting, the newly elected Vestry will meet and elect its officers including the Senior and Junior Wardens, Treasurer and Clerk and Representatives of the Vestry to the Endowment Board and its Executive Committee.

Publication Deadlines

"ATT" & Bulletin

Wednesday Noon of each week

"Messenger"

the 20th of each month

On-Line:

Information can be placed on the web anytime!

JANUARY is DOORSTEP MONTH

Each January St. David's along with three other congregations is responsible for filling the food pantry and helping in the clothing bank. **LAST YEAR we donated 1,562 pounds of food, a record for St. David's. Let's try to do better than that for 2011!!**

The need is great, as all of you know. Be looking for bargains!

FOOD PANTRY NEEDS are specific as certain items are included in each grocery order that is distributed. The following foods are needed: **macaroni and cheese, boxed dinners (hamburger helper, etc.) peanut butter, jelly, canned veggies (especially mixed veggies, peas and tomatoes) canned fruits, canned tuna and meat, soup, crackers, oatmeal, dry cereals, pasta, pasta sauce, pinto beans, rice and canned or powdered milk.** Place your donations in the narthex by the west door or during the week in the box near the church office. We will collect through January 30th.

CLOTHING ROOM VOLUNTEERS: Volunteers are needed to help sort clothes and assist clients as they shop on Thursdays January 6th, 13th, 20th and 27th as well as sort only on Monday, January 24th. There is a sign up sheet on the narthex bulletin board or you can call Mary Ann Jennings at 273-1989 to sign up or to ask questions. Shifts are 9:00am-11:30am and 11:30am-2:00pm. However, you can sign up for more or fewer hours. It's a good fellowship time and St. Davidians have an excellent reputation for being most helpful. Please join us!

A SPECIAL THANK YOU

Thanks to the generosity of many parishioners, the children's pajama drive was quite successful. Our donations went a long way in meeting the needs of the 200 families and 50 individuals that Doorstep adopted through the Christmas Bureau. Other useful items were also donated **Thank you so much for your continued support of Doorstep. You are wonderful!**

Only one Service the weekend of

January 15-16, 2011

9:30 Sunday Morning.



NEWS FROM THE DAUGHTERS OF THE KING

Mother Barbara Bloxsom led our group in an Advent meditation at our December meeting, sharing with us poetry by Ann Weems. It was a very inspiring program.

At our January meeting, Susan Marchant from the Topeka and Shawnee County Public Library will talk to us about some things we really should know about Kansas.

The Mary and Martha Chapter of the Daughters of the King meets at 1:00 on the second Saturday of each month. For more information, please call Diane Bernheimer at 232-1066 or Louise Marvin at 233-4532.

Liturgical Changes

Two slight liturgical changes have taken place in the last few months. We have eliminated the "Presentation hymn." In the 1928 Book of Common Prayer it was a custom to sing the third verse of "Old 100th" commonly known as the "Doxology" as the money is brought forward. This was effectively eliminated with the 1976 Book of Common Prayer.

The emphasis of the "offertory" is the setting of the Holy Table as a time of preparation for the celebration of the Holy Eucharist. That time of preparation is not to be interrupted. Thus the gifts are brought up during the choir's offertory anthem or other music in a quiet and dignified manner, but without a special hymn or causing the congregation to stand.

The other change for St. David's is much more difficult to do and involves some "un-training."

The Easter Acclamation "Alleluia Christ is Risen" and the Easter Dismissal which adds "Alleluia Alleluia" following "Thanks be to God" are specific to Easter day and the "Great 50 days of Easter."

It is something a kin to having a Christmas tree in August to keep giving either the Easter Acclamation or Dismissal outside of its specific season.

The Episcopal Church does not have confessional statements like many other denominations. Rather we rely on our Prayerbook to state our belief structure in the words, order, and rubrics (directives) of our worship. As has been stated many times, we believe as we worship, we worship as we believe.

The Bishop has asked his clergy to be careful in not allowing parish traditions, no matter how inviting they may be, to alter the good order and discipline of the church by changing the prayerbook. That is not, by any means, an unreasonable suggestion. However it may be difficult to change a custom that has been practiced for many years.

The Deacons and Priests have been "enjoined" to follow the directive of the prayerbook in this instance and not lead the congregation into responding with the Alleluia's other than within the Easter Season. The actual rubric from the prayerbook reads:

"From the Easter Vigil through the Day of Pentecost "Alleluia, Alleluia" may be added to any of the dismissals." (BCP p.366).

Thank you for your understanding!

Fr. Don



Rector's Ramblings

Rector's talk a lot. No argument there. With four sermons most weekends and numerous other services and meetings, talking, preaching, speaking, reading are all a part of the priest's vocation. One of the most important of those occasions is the Rector's Annual address. This address is not a sermon, nor homily, it is my opportunity once-a-year to report to the congregation on how things are going and to chart a vision for the next year. I think of it as a new beginning each year, reflective in nature of what has happened and yet casting the line forward, and looking outward to the goals yet accomplished.

Before writing this address I normally take a look at what I said the year before and maybe the year before that. The Vestry and anyone who is interested is given copies of the address, and it is posted on our Annual Meeting on-line page. My hope is that the Vestry will see the address as a road map of sorts giving my intentions for the year ahead and answering the questions that naturally come up through the year.

The nature of the structure of the Episcopal Church is such that the Rector and Vestry (like the Bishop and Council of Trustees) are given basically equal authority and thus must work together to move forward. The church is not congregational as the membership has limited authority other than electing the 9 members of the Vestry. The Rector is not that dissimilar to a CEO and the Vestry is a bit like a board of trustees, but there are many exceptions to that analogy, and while good business practices are appropriate and reasonable, the church is not a business.

We are not alone! St. David's does not operate in isolation, we minister unto God's people under the oversight of a Diocesan Bishop and structure and they serve within the

complementary structure of the National Church.

We are not in competition with other Episcopal Churches or other denominations for that matter. We offer our corner of the Realm of Christ and invite anyone interested in joining. That is why it is so important for us to keep our relationships with our sister/brother churches. The amazing relationship we have enjoyed with Grace Cathedral during and since the fire is a good example. Throughout the year we stand ready to help them when they need it as they have helped us in the past.

When something happens in the Diocese of Atlanta or Minnesota we may not know it, but we can be affected by it as we are all a part of one church, one body. In this day of declining interest in denominational heritages, it is important I believe to stay connected one with another.

So, I would ask that you do attend the annual meeting and take time to listen and read my address. We have so many blessings and we should all share in the good news. We have challenges and we should face them together. We wish to understand and support our mission work around the world, and we need to be a part of the emerging work of our Diocese, especially the new Crossroads campaign. There is much to do as we begin a new year! I invite you all to be informed, be inspired and be ready to move forward and with God's help there is nothing we can't do.

Yours in Christ,

Annual Meeting Website
<http://www.stdavidschurch.com/annmtg2011>

Login: meeting
Password: —
*(call the church or
get it from an usher this weekend)*