

# Saint David's Episcopal Church

701 North Randall Road, Aurora, IL 60506 630-896-7229



## THE LEEK

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MARCH 2009



### *From Pastor Sue's Pen...*

Perhaps it was in eighth grade that I decided I wanted to be an English teacher. From then on, I focused my attention on that goal.

In college, my knowledge of literature increased and I learned to wield a pen to good effect. In fact it was either a pen or a manual typewriter. Does anybody remember those? The physical act of composition was a lot of work back then.

I retired from teaching middle school Language Arts when my daughter was born but never lost the twin desires to read and to write. I even wrote occasional human interest articles for our little newspaper in Wisconsin.

Imagine my surprise, then, when one of my first seminary papers (admittedly many years later) earned a "D." The prof's comment was "You can do better than this!" Word-smithing and story-telling were no longer enough. I focused my attention on analysis.

In a recent sermon, I talked about how much focus matters in seeing beyond what is objectively around us. For example, God's creation is good and appreciation of its beauty is often a stepping stone to seeing God's glory.

As we begin the season of Lent, I encourage you to attend church each Sunday. Also, remember to say your prayers. And do "random acts of kindness." Whether or not we give something up for Lent isn't as important as maintaining our focus on Christ and on Christ's body, the church.

## MANY THANKS TO:

Sally for hosting last month's vestry retreat.

Murray, Mel and Heather, Martin, Eric, and Sally who provided the wonderful New Orleans dinner on Fat Tuesday.

## COUNTERS

Counters signed up for March are:

March 1 Hap,   ?    
March 8 Hap,   ?    
March 15   ?  ,   ?    
March 22 Hap,   ?    
March 29   ?  ,   ?  

If you're an authorized counter, *please* check your schedule and sign up for any upcoming dates you're available. The sign up sheet is posted on the office door.

## SAINT DAVID'S DAY CELEBRATION

We will celebrate Saint David's Day on Sunday, March 1<sup>st</sup> with **one service at 10:00 a.m.** followed by lunch in the undercroft. Bring your favorite leek dish or other food to pass.

A second collection will be taken during the service for the Saint David's Endowment Fund.

## PRAYER SHAWL GROUP

The Prayer Shawl Group meets at 7:00 p.m. at the rectory on the first and third Fridays of the month, March 6<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>.

**DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME BEGINS  
SUNDAY, MARCH 8**

Don't forget to change your clocks  
on Saturday evening!

## BASEMENT CLEANUP

There will be a church undercroft cleaning on Sunday, March 8<sup>th</sup> after the 10 o'clock service.

## KITCHEN RENOVATION

As you may have noticed, the Kitchen Renovation Committee is proceeding (with previously earmarked funds) to spruce up the kitchen area. We have already moved some things in that area and plan to install some new cabinets soon.

The Committee is inviting the entire congregation to discuss the renovation with us on Sunday, March 8 at 9:00 a.m. in the kitchen area. We will in particular be discussing installing a new dishwasher. Please call Marie if you have any questions or cannot make the meeting.

## ST. PATRICK'S DAY ANNUAL CORNERED BEEF & CABBAGE DINNER

When: Saturday, March 14<sup>th</sup>

Where: Undercroft Saint David's Church

Time: 6:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

Cost: \$12 Individual, \$22 Family

What: Fabulous Corned Beef, each cut prepared in its own unique way by our famous chefs of Saint David's, accompanied by new potatoes, baby carrots, steamed cabbage and yes, not to be omitted - Robin's famous soda bread. Pop and water is supplied. For a modest donation, both red and white wine and Irish beer will be available.

An alternate meal of chicken fajitas is offered (sorry, no vegetarian meals can be done at this time).

For Tickets contact Murray or George. Tickets are also available at the door the night of event. Feel free to invite neighbors, friends and family to this fun event!

## EPISCOPAL CHURCH WOMEN (ECW)

Saint Elizabeth's Guild / ECW will meet at Saint David's on 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays of the month, March 15, April 19, May 17 at 9:00 a.m. Every woman over age 16 is invited to join us. We decide on projects to do, how to disperse money from our fundraising, and enjoy fellowship with a short worship experience. If you can't join us, please let one of the officers know projects you are interested in doing as a group. Officers are Kim, Diane, and Sharon.

### ECW Aurora Deanery

Want to meet some new friends and enjoy a Lenten Quiet Day? Come join us Saturday, March 14 at Calvary Episcopal Church in Lombard from 9 a.m. – 1 p.m. (lunch provided for \$5 donation). Program by Jean Goesle – some of you know her from the book club or the salsa lessons. Her solid faith radiates and makes her presentations alive. Contact Kim with RSVP by March 6. We will carpool if you want.

### ECW Diocesan Convention – April 18

Women WANTED for fellowship. Come to the ECW Diocesan Convention on April 18 at the Diocesan Center. Join us for food, fellowship, information, Judge Lefcow presentation, short business meeting, and worship. Meet women from throughout the Diocese who are integral to their individual parish. Find out what programs they support, tell them about ours. This is a wonderful time to meet new people and gather new ideas about how to be the hands and feet of Jesus Christ in this world. Contact Kim or Kate for more details.

## LENTEN DISCUSSION SERIES

“Holy Habits for the Holy Season of Lent” is the title of this year's Lenten discussion. We meet on **Wednesday** evenings during Lent for soup and salad suppers at 6:30 p.m. at the rectory, followed by discussion at 7:00 p.m.



## EASTER FLOWERS

Easter is a special time to remember those we love and to give thanks for God's many blessings in our lives. Your contribution in the form of a memorial or a thank offering to the Altar Guild will help purchase Easter flowers.

Beginning mid-March flower envelopes will be in Sunday bulletins and at the back of church for this purpose. Please note on the envelope if flowers are given to the glory of God, in memory of, in thanksgiving for, etc. If you would like your donation listed on the Easter insert, it must be received by Sunday, April 5<sup>th</sup>.



## EASTER EGG HUNT DONATIONS

Donations for the annual Easter egg hunt may be left by the Vestry mailboxes downstairs. Contact Sally if you have any questions.

## SAINT ELIZABETH'S GUILD / ECW BASEMENT SALE – SATURDAY, MAY 9<sup>TH</sup>

As you start doing your spring cleaning, please think of the Saint David's Basement Sale on May 9<sup>th</sup> and start saving gently used clothes, kitchen items, decorative items, books, videos, music, linens, bikes, tools, and small furniture. No appliances (none of us can lift them). Due to space constraints, we can accept items no earlier than Sunday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>. Remember that Saint Elizabeth's Guild / ECW donates 10% of the proceeds to a charity and the rest will directly help Saint David's. Typically proceeds have gone towards lawn care or snow plowing.

## SERVER SCHEDULE

The server schedule may be obtained online at [stdavidsofaurora.com](http://stdavidsofaurora.com). Click on calendar and then on servers on the individual dates.



## KIDS COLUMN

Congratulations to our Sunday School children for completing the "Saint David's Challenge." Each child chose seven tasks to complete from a list of options. Prizes were awarded for their efforts!

The season of Epiphany teaches us about Jesus and his work. His role as teacher, healer and preacher keeps him very busy (much like our own lives). We learned how Jesus taught in a new way . . . and with such authority. And still, he finds the time to pray in order to re-energize. It is important that we pray in order to stay connected with God.

The children were able to interview Pastor Sue one Sunday during class. We know that preaching is an important part of every worship experience. The preacher is working hard. We should do our best to hear Pastor Sue's message. Some of our questions during the interview included: Why did you decide to become a priest? How do you prepare for your sermons? Do you take notes? What else do you do during the week? We were glad to get some insight on how Pastor Sue prepares for Sunday services.

The Lenten season will begin with our pancake races. The children look forward to this annual event.

A poster outlining Matthew, Mark, and Luke was donated by one of our families. It will be a useful tool for us. Thank you for this donation to our classroom.

In March, we will be sending out Easter cards to some of our homebound parishioners. If you know of anyone who would like to receive a home made card from the children, let one of the Sunday School teachers know by the middle of the month.

The teenagers continue to explore the role of God and religion in our lives. We have talked about our own relationships with others and

how they are shaped by the choices we make and how the life of Jesus (and others as told in the Bible) give us models for our own lives. We'll be continuing looking at the amazing life of Paul and studying other formal religions, such as Judaism and Buddhism, into the spring.

### **FLOWER & CANDLE SIGN UP**

Flower and candle sign up sheets are posted on the bulletin board in the parlor. Many dates are still available. Please sign up for dates you would like reserved.

The cost for donating flowers is \$25 and the candle is \$5. Please make checks payable to Saint David's Altar Guild. Payment may be given to Kay or placed in the offering plate in an envelope addressed to the Altar Guild. It would be greatly appreciated if payment is made in a timely manner.

### **KNOW OF A PRAYER NEED?**

"If you believe, you will receive whatever you ask for in prayer" Matthew 21:22. Do you or someone you know need prayer? The Prayer Chain of Saint David's responds to all prayer requests. Please call Rogera or the church office to place your request.

### **MEMORIAL GARDEN HELP**

Interested in helping out in the garden? Give Doreen a call.

### **TAX DEDUCTION INFORMATION**

Did you know that in *addition* to your pledge, other donations to Saint David's Church can be deducted for tax purposes? Receipts for purchases made for Saint David's benefit can be turned in to the office. Donations will be recorded throughout the year on your quarterly statements as a *donation* that is *in addition* to your annual pledge.

## **WHAT IS THE DISCRETIONARY FUND?**

The Discretionary Fund is used to help those in need, both in our church and our community. It is funded by your donations. On second Sundays "loose" cash in the offering plate as well as specially designated checks go for this purpose. Checks payable to Saint David's with Discretionary Fund noted on the memo line are eligible for a tax deduction.

## **FROM THE ARCHIVES**

Things were running late. Christmas 1958 was to be the occasion of the opening of the church building of Saint David's Mission, but it wasn't ready and everyone set their eyes on Easter.

The month of March 1959 started off with a plan. According to the Palm Sunday bulletin, March 22, 1959, Holy Week services (including those for Good Friday) would be held in the "Chapel," which was actually a room in the vicarage (located on Commonwealth Avenue) that could accommodate the priest and nine worshippers. "Easter Even" litany and Eucharist would be conducted in the church at 8 a.m. There was also a baptism scheduled for 4:30.

However, between the typing of the Palm Sunday bulletin and the Good Friday bulletin, something changed: "The Three Hour Service will be held in the New Church from noon to 3 p.m. Worshippers may enter or leave most conveniently during hymns." Technically, then, the Good Friday service on March 27<sup>th</sup> was the first service held in our church building. But the date that is mentioned in church records as the first service in the new church is Easter Sunday, March 29, 1959.

The Easter service opened with the Easter hymn, the first line of which is "Jesus Christ is risen today...." The architect, Howard Raftery,

and his wife attended the service. The special Easter offering was designated for the Saint David's Building Fund, this time "to defray the expense of some of the many fittings and furnishings needed to make the church and the church property functional and livable." Hymns were sung at both the Good Friday and Easter services; the instrument played was a used Hammond organ obtained in February that year.

During the three years since the founding of Saint David's in March 1956, the congregation had been meeting at Aurora College (now University). Just weeks after the opening of our church building, the six original members of the Bishop's Committee of Men wrote to the president of Aurora College. They expressed the "grateful appreciation of the founding parishioners to you and the members of your staff for providing us with a church 'home' for the past three years. Without the kind and helpful consideration of all of you, we are sure that Saint David's might still be just a dream... We...want you and your associates to know that our parishioners, both present and future, will be eternally indebted to Aurora College for its invaluable assistance in our infancy."

Serving on the original Bishop's Committee of Men were Karl Grube, John Brandel, Ralph Putnam, Jr., John Krause, Roy Lewis, and Henry Smith.

Kate, Archivist

## **HELP WANTED**

We need someone to sweep and wash the floor downstairs every Sunday morning. Pay is \$10. Please contact Pastor Sue or the church office if interested.

## **NEW DIRECTORY**

Work has begun on an updated Saint David's directory. If any of your information has changed please contact the church office.

## **HIPAA REGULATIONS AFFECT ALL PARISHIONERS**

The Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) of 1996 is designed to protect the privacy of all patients. It is wide reaching in its scope. Did you know if you or a family member is hospitalized the hospital will not automatically tell Saint David's? Even if you indicate you are Episcopalian or are a member of Saint David's, they can't tell us.

Please remember to call the church office, 630-896-7229, when you or a family member is hospitalized. We want to know so we can pray for you and reach out to you in your time of need.

## **MUSICIANS WANTED**

The Liturgy Committee invites you to share your musical talent. So, dust off that flute, saxophone, violin, or any other instrument that may be in a closet, under a bed, or on a shelf somewhere. Please see Sally to arrange a Sunday for you to make a joyful noise!

## **iGive.com**

Who hasn't uttered the word, "I wish there was something I could do to help?" Now you can. Start shopping!

At [www.iGive.com/StDavidsEpiscopalofAurora](http://www.iGive.com/StDavidsEpiscopalofAurora) you can buy the items you've always wanted only without the guilt.

It's FREE, no invisible costs or tricky obligations. Shop for everyday items at the over 650 stores at the Mall at iGive.com, like Barnes & Noble, Lands' End, Best Buy, and Neiman Marcus. Up to 26% or more of each purchase is donated to Saint David's.

To learn more about iGive.com please visit [www.iGive.com/html/causefaqs2.cfm](http://www.iGive.com/html/causefaqs2.cfm)

## **[www.goodsearch.com](http://www.goodsearch.com)**

Help finance Saint David's ministries, for free! When you surf the web using the yahoo powered search engine: [www.goodsearch.com](http://www.goodsearch.com)

## **WANTED – YOUTH LEADERS**

Do you have a desire to lead and direct our senior youth at church sponsored activities? Do you want to become more involved in our church? Mandatory completion of "Keeping God's Children Safe" is required. A driver's license is preferred, but not required. For more information contact Murray or Pastor Sue.

## **MARRIAGE**

Holy Matrimony is solemnized only after instruction by the Clergy. It is recommended that six months' notice be given, longer in the case of second marriages. The season of Lent is not appropriate for marriages. A pamphlet on getting married at Saint David's is available in the Parish Office.

## **BAPTISM**

Holy Baptism is administered on designated Sundays during the service. Holy Baptism is especially appropriate at the Easter Vigil, on the Day of Pentecost, on All Saints' Day (or the Sunday after), the Feast of the Baptism of Our Lord (the first Sunday after Epiphany) and the Bishop's visitation. Godparents must be baptized Christians. It is recommended that they be either a confirmed member of this parish or active in their own parish. Please call Pastor Sue to arrange for the baptism and to schedule pre-baptismal instruction.

## **MEET THE MAYORAL CANDIDATES**

A town hall meeting sponsored by the Interfaith Communities of Aurora and Sugar Grove will be held on Wednesday, March 18 at 6:30 p.m. at Wesley United Methodist Church, 14 N. May Street in Aurora. This meeting will specifically address social issues facing the faith community and serve as a forum for peoples of faith to let their questions and concerns be conveyed to the candidates.

## **HOME HEATING BILL ASSISTANCE**

Do you or someone you know need help paying home heating bills? Call LIHEAP (Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program) at 847-697-4400 or 815-758-3835. You don't need to be behind on your bills, you can be a homeowner or renter, all ages are eligible. Disconnected? We might be able to help.

## **FOOD PANTRY EXTENDED HOURS**

Kendall County Food Pantry has extended its Thursday hours. From 2-3 p.m. elderly, handicapped and special needs clients will receive priority service. All other clients will be served from 3-7 p.m. Call 630-553-0473 for more information.

## **VOLUNTEER TAX ASSISTANCE**

Volunteer tax assistance is available at the Waubensee campus in downtown Aurora through April 15. Sessions are held on Saturdays from 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. and Wednesdays from 5:30 - 8:00 p.m. (except March 25 & 28). Limits are family income of \$45,000 and individuals of \$20,000. All forms and documents, including 2007 returns should be brought with to the sessions.

