

## From the Assistant Rector

### **Honeymoon with God**

Mike and I have only been married for five years, but a second honeymoon is beginning to sound extremely appealing. Perhaps it's a winter thing, and I'm simply longing for a warm beach or sunlit orchard somewhere. But more likely, to be honest, it's the kids.

It's the playdates and the strollers and the diapers and the feedings and the blocks and the play-doh and all of the hundreds of wonderful (and not so wonderful) things that nonetheless leave us with so little time to spend on each other. Our daily life leaves us meager opportunity to be together, working on our relationship, remembering what we love about each other and discovering new depths, new joys, and even new challenges. So a second honeymoon would be nice.

Second honeymoons, by and large, offer time to celebrate and enjoy each other, falling in love all over again as you revel in each other's company. They're about making space amidst all the distractions to re-enter relationship, centering yourself in its joy and strength so as to return to your tasks renewed and refreshed.

As such, I would like to offer second honeymoons as an alternative image of Lent.

Consider using this Lent as a honeymoon with God – a time to fall back in love. Seriously, amidst all of the responsibilities and demands of your life, how much time have you spent alone with God recently? When was the last time you simply allowed yourself to bask in your Creator's love? Are you remembering to stop and enjoy the company of the Holy One, to sit still on a riverbank with the Most High and just be?

Our love for God and God's for us is a covenant, a deep relationship that needs to be watered like any other, or risk becoming an arid drudgery. Yes, we need to pay attention to what God asks of us. Yes, we need to examine our lives and attempt to place ourselves more

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## Christ Church community observes Lent in many ways

We invite you to take part in as many of the Christian Formation opportunities we're offering during this Lenten season to help you grow in your faith in Christ and your commitment to God's work among us here at Christ Church.

### *Morning Prayer*

Start each weekday of Lent with your mind focused on God through a time of prayer with your fellow parishioners. Morning prayer is offered in the kitchen at 7:00am, weekdays through Friday, April 2.

### *Bible Study*

In response to parishioners' requests for opportunities for Bible Study, we will offer a Lenten Bible Study on Sunday mornings in Lent from 9:00am to 9:45 am in the Lounge. The group will focus on one or more of the lessons for the day. You will find a listing of the lessons to be studied each Sunday on the table near the tract racks in the office area. The last session of these Bible Studies will be Palm Sunday, April 4.

### *Evening Meditations*

"Evening Meditations" is a time of silence, prayer, and guided meditation in the Chapel on three Mondays, March 1, 15, and 29, from 6:00pm-7:00pm. This worship experience will provide an opportunity for members of the congregation to do as Jesus did -- to go into that quiet place, that desert place -- in an attempt to discover where God is leading us and what God is doing in our lives during this season of Lent. Childcare will be provided.

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## *In-life retreat adds new meaning and significance to Lenten season*

### *By the Rev. Margaret Haas*

With Lent so close at hand we begin thinking about how we will strive to keep a holy Lent -- about what we plan to give up for the season, how we hope to change our behavior, what we might do in the way of prayer and Scripture reading to make the season more meaningful for us.

As you make your plans for Lent, I would like to suggest another opportunity, something that has been called an "In-life Retreat." This kind of retreat takes place within the context of our normal lives at home, at work, and at school. But it involves a change in the way we live our lives there for a short period of time, say, for a week.

This in-life retreat is appropriate for any week during Lent, but especially appropriate during Holy Week. Engaging in such a retreat means creating space for silence. It means turning off the television and radio --

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## From the Assistant Rector

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fully inside a Kingdom reality. But without the sustenance of the wild and passionate love that binds God to God's creatures, our efforts often die on the vine.

There are many ways to re-immersing ourselves in our relationship with God. It could even be accomplished in that same sunlit orchard. It can, in fact, be done anywhere we can allow ourselves to be open to God's Presence and take delight in Loving.

You'll find numerous opportunities listed in this *Courier* that can get you started: not obligations, nor acts of penitence or discipline, but opportunities to honeymoon with God. Deep waters of peace and silence in which you can sink yourself. Quiet moments of prayer and reflection. Times to plunge into sacred story.

In Lent we are invited away from work and distractions, to a quiet place where we might drink from the Source of Being. Perhaps we can only enter that place briefly or occasionally, but we just might bring back with us a heightened awareness of the One who is ever at our side.

In peace,

Clare



## Christian Formation opportunities at Lent

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### Lenten Soup Suppers

Our traditional Lenten Soup Suppers begin this month on March 3 and continue through March 31. A simple soup and salad meal will be served from 5:45pm to 6:30pm, followed by a short time of worship. Educational classes for the entire family will be held from 6:45pm to 7:45pm.

One of the educational offerings for both children and adults is a new program being offered by the Children's Education Commission. Called "Aslan on the Move," it's a five-part series based on *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe* by C.S. Lewis. Although some of the children (and adults) may have read this book or seen the movie, they may not be familiar with, or have recognized, the Christian values imbedded in the story. This series will explore the book and movie from that Christian perspective at a level that should be informative and fun for children of all ages.

Adults will find the class on the Authority of Scripture helpful and relevant as the Church and our culture debate over how the Bible should be read. With the release of Mel Gibson's controversial movie "The Passion of Christ" and books like *The DaVinci Code* that have created a new appetite for an understanding of Biblical history, this series will be a helpful resource for discussions with fellow parishioners, friends, neighbors, co-workers and family.

To make clean up from the meals easier, we ask that you bring your own bowls and utensils. If you can help prepare simple suppers of soup, bread and salad, or help with clean up after the meal, please add your name to the sign-up sheet posted in the Undercroft or call Soup Supper Coordinator Michele Nolan @ 248-777-6991 or 313-396-3742.

### Adult Forums during Lent

"Sharing our Stories: Sharing our Faith" will be the topic of discussion at the adult Forums on Sunday mornings during Lent. We'll look at issues related to the growth of our church, encouraging one another to share our stories about God, church and community in a meaningful way. These Forums will provide opportunities for important discussions as we reflect on the times we've felt closest to God, as well asking ourselves the kind of Christian community we want to be.

## In-life retreat offers new meaning at Lent

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whatever distracts and makes noise. It means spending more time than usual in silence — silence for prayer so that we can be truly attentive to the movement of God in our lives. It also means encouraging a quiet attitude in the midst of the chaos and tumult of our workday world so that the anxieties that so often take hold of us are calmed and so that we can feel at rest, at peace.

In that silence we would make time for the reading of Scripture. It is a good time to pick any of the four Gospels that you choose for special attention. Meditate on it.

Think about the Jesus you find there. What images of Jesus do you see? Which of those images or descriptions of Jesus speak most powerfully to you? Speak to that Jesus. Pray to him. Write down your prayers. Keep a journal of thoughts and feelings during these times of prayer and meditation. If you express yourself through art-work, draw your prayer; draw your responses to the Gospel.

Finally, allow the quiet to extend into your relationships with others. It is a time to be especially watchful so that we will see and be able to respond to those who need us. It is a time for us to resolve to resist the temptation for gossip. It is a time to strive to let our words be kind and encouraging, a time to speak for justice, to be advocates for the poor and those who suffer.

If you are interested in making an in-life-retreat and want more information on how it might work for you — and on how we might prayerfully support one another during our own individual weeks of retreat — I'd be happy to speak with you.

## Attend the Convention

All are welcome to join our clergy and lay delegates at the 170th Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Michigan being held this month on Friday and Saturday, March 5 and 6, at the Sheraton Detroit-Novi Hilton in Novi. A number of new canons affecting local congregations will be considered at the convention. If you'd like to learn more about those canons, log on to the Diocesan website at [www.edomi.org](http://www.edomi.org). Our delegates this year are Jane Culp, Kevin Green and alternate Edwina Simpson (filling in for Carol Garrison). Barbara Hall is serving as second alternate.

## Decoding *The DaVinci Code*

Dr. Bruce Rigdon will speak on Dan Brown's popular book, *The DaVinci Code* on Friday, March 12 at 7:00pm at the Ecumenical Theological Seminary on Woodward in Detroit. More than 1700 people attended Rigdon's last presentation on the book. Tickets are \$10 per person. For more information, call 313-831-5200 or check on-line at [www.etseminary.org](http://www.etseminary.org).

## On "The Passion" from a Jewish perspective

Seminars for Adult Jewish Enrichment will present "The Passion of the Christ: Understanding Through Jewish Eyes," on Thursday, March 4 and 11, at 7:30pm. The discussion sessions are focused on the much-talked about movie by Mel Gibson, "The Passion of Christ." The seminars will be held at The Jewish Community Center of Metropolitan Detroit, 6600 West Maple Road in West Bloomfield. Call 248-432-5577 for tickets (\$5).

## A simply abundant life

The 7th annual conference on "Becoming a Household of Christ" will be held March 26 and 27 at St. John's, Royal Oak. Bishop Gibbs encourages all to attend to be a part of the exploration of how we as Christians might better integrate our faith with our secular lives. Hear internationally acclaimed speaker, Sister Jose Hobday, O.S.F, share her insights into the spirituality of simplicity and how living more simply offers opportunities to live more abundantly in our faith. Cost is \$25 per person with \$5 off per person for groups of five or more. Learn more at [www.edomi.org](http://www.edomi.org).

## Quilts with a Cause

Murray Stover Library is collecting fabric scraps and men's ties to help a church in Troy that makes quilted sleeping bags for adults and children (the ties are used to create a backpack-type bundle of the quilt). A drop box for your donations is in the library. To learn more about this ministry, check out the *Detroit Free Press* article posted on the library bulletin board.

## ERD helps Haitian children

As political unrest continues to spread throughout Haiti, emergency assistance is needed immediately for children, women, the elderly, and other vulnerable people in the poorest nation in our hemisphere, Haiti. Tens of thousands of people are not getting critical food and water. "The recent unrest has brought the country to a halt," said the Rt. Rev. Jean Zache Duracin, Bishop of Haiti. "If the unrest continues, people will starve." Episcopal Relief and Development (ERD) You can help by sending the most generous gift you can to help provide emergency funds for food, medical supplies and shelter to children and families suffering in Haiti. \$20 will provide life-saving food and medical supplies for at least one person; \$60 will provide food and medical supplies for a family of four; and \$85 will provide food, medical supplies and shelter for a family of four. Please make checks payable to: Episcopal Relief and Development/Haiti Relief Fund and mail to PO Box 12043, Newark NJ 07101-5043 To make a credit card donation, call 1.800.334.7626, Ext. 5129 or visit [www.er-d.org](http://www.er-d.org). If funds for this project are oversubscribed, ERD will use these funds for similar life-saving projects.

By BOB VOKAC

Recently I was delighted to run into the son of an old friend of mine whom I had heard had been hospitalized in Ann Arbor. As we chatted, he told me that my friend was not in a hospital per se, but in a hospice residence. He was there for several days for medication adjustment and to give his wife some respite from day-to-day caregiving.

I learned that my friend has a terminal brain tumor and is enrolled in the hospice program. This is Medicare-funded, and provides a visiting nurse, medical supplies and equipment, a visiting chaplain and social worker, and home health care, in addition to eligibility for stays at the Residence Inns.

My friend's son gave me a brochure on the Arbor Hospice & Home Care Facility and I would like to share some of that information with you. The Arbor Hospice & Home Care has provided quality and compassionate care for the terminally ill and their families throughout the region since 1984. Arbor is committed to enabling people to complete their lives in peace with a sense of dignity and comfort by addressing the emotional, spiritual and psychosocial issues faced at the end-of-life, in addition to an individual's physical needs.

I was quite interested to learn when an individual should consider hospice care. There are five primary criteria for consideration: when treatment will no longer cure the disease, when there are complications from the disease, when activities of daily living become difficult, when the person's symptoms are uncomfortable, and when pain is not well controlled. Admission to such a hospice program at home or in a facility requires the certification of the primary physician.

The Arbor Hospice & Home Care is one of several such facilities in the general region. It is located southwest of Ann Arbor near the Briarwood Shopping Center in a newly developed and peaceful area. To find out more about The Arbor Hospice, call 1-888-992-2273 or log on to: [www.arborhospice.org](http://www.arborhospice.org).

As a result of learning this information I visited my friend recently who reported on his favorable stay at the facility. It has comfortable rooms, superb food, and a truly caring and competent support staff.

For those who have not guessed by now, I am the "friend." I am writing about and want to share my experience with all. My motivation for sharing this experience is a result of the strong feelings I have developed for Christ Church over the past four years and the potential value the material may have for fellow parishioners.

## CHRISTIAN FORMATION

### LENTEN PRAYER

**Weekdays, March 1 - April 2, 7AM**

Start each weekday in Lent with morning prayer. Any questions, call Don Cardwell @ 313-277-0574. Location: kitchen

### LENTEN MEDITATIONS

**Monday, March 1, 15, 29 at 6PM**

Opportunity for a time of silence, prayer and guided meditation in the chapel. Following Jesus's example, you'll enter a quiet place in an attempt to discover where God is leading us and what God is doing in our lives during Lent. Childcare provided.

### LENTEN SOUP SUPPERS

**Wednesdays, March 3, 10, 17, 24, 31, from 5:45PM-7:45PM**

Special time of fellowship, worship and education during Lent. Dinner will be served in the undercroft between 5:45 and 6:30pm, followed by worship and education. Children will participate in Aslan on the Move, based on *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe* by C. S. Lewis. Adults will look at the authority of scripture.

### LENTEN BIBLE STUDY

**Sundays in March, 9AM**

Bible study focused on one or more of the lessons for the day. A listing of the lessons to be studied each Sunday will be available in the office reception area in Stacey Hall. Meets in the lounge.

### BREAKFAST BUNCH

**Sundays, 9AM**

Meets after the 8:00am service at Leon's Restaurant in Dearborn.

### THE FORUM

**Sundays, 11:30AM-12:15PM**

Meets in the undercroft

- 3/7 "Sharing our Stories: What is Evangelism"
- 3/14 "Sharing our Stories: Experiences of God"
- 3/21 "Sharing our Stories: Experiences of Community"
- 3/28 "Sharing our Stories: Opening the Doors"

## ST. MARY'S OF BETHANY

**Tuesdays, 10AM**

Intercessory prayer group for the needs of those on our current and sustaining prayer lists. All are welcome.

### "NOT NECESSARILY RELIGIOUS"

#### BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP

**Wednesday, April 21, 7:30PM**

Don't miss out on this opportunity to discuss *The Secret Life of Bees* by Sue Monk Kidd. The book is available in paper back at local bookstores or online. Group contact: Kevin Green @ 313-792-9839.

### "INQUIRING HEARTS"

**Sunday, March 28, 4:30PM**

Opportunity to ask questions and talk about a variety of issues affecting our faith. Participants bring a snack, sweet or savory to share. Meets in lounge.

### FOYER GROUPS

Small-group opportunity at parishioners' homes for simple meal and casual conversation. To be a part of one, call Margaret Green @ 313-792-9839.

## CHILDREN'S EDUCATION

### PRAYER ROOM

**Sundays, 10:00AM**

Worship activities for children 3-7 years. (Pre-K: Rm 12; K-2nd: Rm 213)

### CHURCH SCHOOL

**Sundays, 11:30AM**

Bible stories, singing and crafts for children preschool-aged to 9. (Education Hall)

## JOURNEY TO ADULTHOOD

### RITE 13

**Sundays, 11:30AM-12:15PM**

For youth ages 10-13; meets in Room 17. Contacts: Susan Gregg & Dale Taylor (313-277-1975).

### J2A

**First & Third Sundays, 11:30AM-12:15PM**

For youth aged 14 to 15; meets in Room 19. Contacts: Chris Goss (313-565-7647) or Thomas Trimble (313-581-6268).

### YOUNG ADULTS

**First & Third Sundays, 11:30AM-12:15PM**

For ages 16 to 18; meets in Rm 212. Info: Jerry Behm (313-277-7607).

## MEETINGS

### ST. MARTHA'S GUILD MTG.

**Tuesday, March 9, 12:00PM**

Join the Guild for a good time of fellowship. You bring a sandwich lunch and the Guild provides beverages and dessert. All are welcome.

## MUSIC MINISTRY

### ADULT CHOIR

**Thursdays, 7:30PM**

Currently seeking new voices to round out their sound. (Childcare available)

### CHILDREN'S CHOIR

**Sundays, 9:00am (except March 28)**

Children's Choir for elementary school-aged children. Meets in Rm. 213. Contact: Sean Jackman @ 313-562-0136.

### HANDBELL CHOIR

**Thursdays, 6:30pm**

For more information, please call the church office.

## SERVICE OPPORTUNITY

### TRINITY SOUP KITCHEN

**Saturday, March 6, 8:30am-3:00PM**

Help prepare and serve lunch for the hungry and homeless at Trinity Episcopal Church in Detroit on Saturday, March 6 from 9am to 3pm. Meet in the church parking lot at 8:30am to car pool. Sign-up on the Education and Undercroft bulletin boards.

## AROUND TOWN

### QUIET MORNING

**Saturday, March 20, 9am-12pm**

*"The Jesus Prayer: Healing of the Soul- How Meditation Can Lead Us to Holiness"* A Lenten spirituality opportunity with the Rev. Richard Singleton at St. Anne's Episcopal Church, 430 Nicolet, Walled Lake, MI. A recurring ecumenical interfaith event where participants will join Singleton in spiritual exploration and meditation. \$15 per person. To register, call Bill McKinney at (248) 363-0965 before March 13

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
(Morning Prayer offered weekdays at 7:00am through April 2)	<b>1</b> 10am Senior Exercise 6pm Meditation 7pm Boy Scout Comm. Mtg. 8pm AA	<b>2</b> 9:30am Quilters 10am Prayer Group 11am HE & Healing 6:30pm Energy Healing 7pm Boy Scouts	<b>3</b> 9am Art Class 6pm Lenten Soup Supper 7pm Cycling Saddlemen 7:30pm AA	<b>4</b> 6:30pm Handbell Choir 7pm LWV Mtg. 7:30pm Choir Rehearsal	<b>5</b> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;">Diocesan Convention in Novi</div>	<b>6</b> 8:30am-3pm Trinity Soup Kitchen 12-1:30pm AA
<b>7</b> 8 & 10am Holy Eucharist 9am Children's Choir / Bible Study 10am Prayer Room 11:30am Church School / Rite 13 / JZA / YA / Forum	<b>8</b> 10am Senior Exercise 8pm AA	<b>9</b> 9:30am Quilters 10am Prayer Group 11am HE 12pm St. Martha's Guild 5:30pm Stewardship Mtg. 6:30pm Energy Healing 7pm Boy Scouts	<b>10</b> 9am Art Class 6pm Lenten Soup Supper 7pm Property Mtg. 7:30pm AA	<b>11</b> 6:30pm Handbell Choir 7:30pm Choir Rehearsal	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> 9:30am ECW Board Mtg. & Luncheon 12-1:30pm AA
<b>14</b> 8 & 10am Holy Eucharist 9am Children's Choir / Bible Study 10am Prayer Room 11:30am Church School / Rite 13 / Forum 1pm Vestry Mtg.	<b>15</b> 10am Senior Exercise 6pm Meditation 8pm AA	<b>16</b> 9:30am Quilters 10am Prayer Group 11am HE 6:30pm Energy Healing 7pm Boy Scouts / Finance	<b>17</b> 9am Art Class 1pm Library Mtg. 6pm Lenten Soup Supper 7:30pm AA	<b>18</b> 6:30pm Handbell Choir 7pm LWV Mtg. 7:30pm Choir Rehearsal	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> 12-1:30pm AA
<b>21</b> 8 & 10am Holy Eucharist 9am Children's Choir / Bible Study 10am Prayer Room 11:30am Church School / Rite 13 / JZA / YA / Forum	<b>22</b> 10am Senior Exercise 7pm Service Comm. Mtg. 8pm AA	<b>23</b> 9:30am Quilters 10am Prayer Group 11am HE 6:30pm Energy Healing 7pm Boy Scouts	<b>24</b> 9am Art Class 6pm Lenten Soup Supper 7:30pm AA	<b>25</b> 6:30pm Handbell Choir 7:30pm Choir Rehearsal	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> 12-1:30pm AA
<b>28</b> UTO Ingathering 8 & 10am Holy Eucharist 9am Bible Study 10am Prayer Room 11:30am Church School / Rite 13 / Forum 4:30pm "Inquiring Hearts"	<b>29</b> 10am Senior Exercise 6pm Meditation 8pm AA	<b>30</b> 9:30am Quilters 10am Prayer Group 11am HE 6:30pm Energy Healing 7pm Boy Scouts	<b>31</b> 6pm Lenten Soup Supper 7:30pm AA			

**WEEK OF March 7**

**Acolytes** E. Sallman, S. Matthews, J. Groover, T. LeDuc  
**Ushers** (8am) G. Borgeson (10am) Team 2 – Ludwig, Sallman, Leduc, Cardwell  
**Lector/L.E.M.** (8am) M. Farguharson (10am) M. Piernick, M.J. Searles, E. Simpson  
**Altar Guild** I. Behm, L. Pedler, L. Conklin  
**LEV's** S. Quaint, B. Hall  
**VPOD** T. Trimble, L. LeDuc  
**Sunday Readings** (The 2nd Sunday in Lent)  
 Genesis 15:1-12,17-18; Psalm 27;  
 Philippians 3:17-4:1; Luke 13:22-35

**WEEK OF March 14**

**Acolytes** A. Piernick, M. Swiecicki, D. Piernick, L. Hines  
**Ushers** (8am) K Goss (10am) Team 3 – Piernick, Durbin, M. Kunys, J. Groover, L. Prokopp  
**Lector/L.E.M.** (8am) D. Brehob (10am) B. Simpson, M.A. Zawada, M. Amis  
**Altar Guild** E. Boyar, C. Goss, B. Caldwell  
**LEV's** M.J. Searles, L. Gray  
**VPOD** J. Culp, D. Brehob  
**Sunday Readings** (The 3rd Sunday of Lent)  
 Exodus 3:1-15; Psalm 103:1-11;  
 1 Corinthians 10:1-13; Luke 13:1-9

**WEEK OF March 21**

**Acolytes** C. Kappauf, R. Green, B. Green, P. Nini  
**Ushers** (8:00am) D. Baker Sr (10:00am) Team 4 – Oelkers, Kedzo, D. Brim, J. Dolega  
**Lector/LEM** (8:00am) M. Amis (10am) M. Farquharson, D. Brehob, R. Groover  
**Altar Guild** K. Hipp, J. Cohoe, J. Reiner  
**LEV's** C. Goss, J. Anderson  
**VPOD** TBD  
**Sunday Readings** (The 4th Sunday of Lent)  
 Joshua 5:9-12; Psalm 34:1-8;  
 2 Corinthians 5:17-21; Luke 15:11-32

**WEEK OF March 28**

**Acolytes** E. Brehob, E. Sallman, T. LeDuc, J. Pellegrino  
**Ushers** (8am) L. Crane (10am) Team 5 – D. Hipp, M. Hipp, Quaint, Matthews, Oatney  
**Lector/LEM** (8am) R. Groover (10am) K. Green, D. Cardwell, B. Hall  
**Altar Guild** E. Coghill, S. McCullen, I. Behm  
**LEV's** M. Pellegrino, S. Mulkern, S. Quaint  
**VPOD** R Groover  
**Sunday Readings** (The 5th Sunday in Lent)  
 Isaiah 43:16-21; Psalm 126;  
 Philippians 3:8-14; Luke 20:9-19

# Theoretical questions become reality for St. David's

By Mary Jo Searles

*"St. David's is a congregation in transition. After 50 years of worshiping in this location, we have begun preparing to move our congregation to a new facility."*

This surprising information about St. David's Episcopal Church in Garden City greeted me in the February 8 edition of their Sunday Bulletin when I worshiped with this congregation of 30 individuals. The histories of Christ Church, Dearborn and St. David's go back to March 1955, when services were held in a Garden City elementary school, just west on Marquette from the church's present location.

Art and Sarge Thomas from our congregation took on the responsibility of conducting regular morning prayer services, and Holy Communion was celebrated by Christ Church clergy once a month. Art was a lay reader, and Sarge provided the music for those services. St. David's was admitted to the Diocese as a self-sustaining parish on May 15, 1964, and Fr. Fred Nicholson, one of Christ Church's associates at the time, was called as St. David's first rector.

The February 8, 2004 bulletin continues:

In order to be ready to [move to a new facility], we have moved our worship to our parish hall and closed the east end of our building. This is enabling us to get used to the idea of worshiping together in a different location. It will also help us to begin to plan for all we will need to do in order to move from this place. During this time of preparation, the vestry is asking our members to pray and consider the following two questions:

1. How are we doing in our sense of ourselves as a church community (apart from our building)?
2. Can this worshiping community survive leaving this building?

In April, the vestry will meet to consider the answers to these two questions and to plan for the next step in our life as a congregation. ... Know that this is a time of both grief and excitement: grief at leaving the place that we have known for so long and excitement at the prospect of a new beginning and rebirth for our worshiping community. We welcome your participation and insight as we begin our journey.

In the spring of 2001, the congregation here at Christ Church discussed the theoretical question: What would I do if Christ Church closed its doors tomorrow? Have you thought about how living out your faith might be different if you worshipped in a different location or among different parishioners? Have you considered the kinds of questions that, for St. David's, are questions that are no longer theoretical?

Answering these questions can help us as we work together to envision the kind of church -- and people of God -- the congregation of Christ Church wants to be. Take some time this Lenten season to give some thought to these questions and let's share our insights with each other.

## In our Mail Box ...

From The American Red Cross

***"The American Red Cross staff extends their sincere appreciation for your efforts on behalf of the many patients whose lives depend on the availability of blood products in our community. At your blood drive on Sunday, January 25, 33 pints of life-saving blood were collected, giving 99 hospital patients a chance to regain their health. Your efforts make your church a precious asset in our community."***

From Haleh Falandino, Secretary of the Interfaith Thanksgiving Planning Committee

***"The Interfaith Thanksgiving Planning Committee would like to acknowledge and appreciate the hospitality of your wonderful staff and congregation extended to people of all faith communities in the Detroit metropolitan area on Wednesday, November 26, 2003. Your leadership in accepting the responsibility of hosting the 2003 Interfaith Thanksgiving Worship Service is most commendable. All the guests felt welcome in the warm and loving atmosphere of Christ Episcopal Church."***

From Mary Agnes Clickner

***"Thank you so very much to all who participated in Crossroads Soup Kitchen last month. On Saturday, February 7, our chopping crew consisted of Jack Durbin, Ruth Warner, Liz Coghill, Edwina Simpson, Michele Nolan, Clay Spencer, Barbara Hall, Mary Jo Searles and Jean Scamas. On Sunday, February 8, our crew included Bill and Ruth Warner; Peter Swiecicki; Matt, Jean, David & Adam Piernick; Jamie Connelly, Dean Young, Josh Groover, Susan McCullen, Liz Coghill, Nancy Weil, Thomas Trimble, Sally Tilley, Abigail Green, Cory Smith, Matt Sallman and Lindsay. We made sandwiches, set up and served numerous meals and carry outs. The crew worked tirelessly from 9am to 3pm before returning home. I really appreciated all the men that came to help. It is very important and crucial to have men attend this event."***

### Benediction: The Grace of Salt by Luci Shaw

*"The world is white with the salt of the Lord, and look -- the heavens are shaking again! These darkening days, the flakes fall on all our fields like a benediction. Our lips lift to their bite, their cold salute. We taste the firm tang in the air with tongues eager for the sting of white to cleanse our souls and cool our fevers, seasoning us with snow."*

Submitted by Murray Stover Library

# ETC.

## United Thank Offering INGATHERING SUNDAY, MARCH 28

**Make your United Thank Offering a part of your Lenten experience this year.**

We'll gather your blue boxes filled with change, or your checks made payable to Christ Church and designated for UTO, on March 28.

The UTO is intended to be a tangible expression of our thanks to God for blessings and to be united with other Episcopalians in offering prayers and money for the worldwide family of God. See UTO Coordinator Jo Reiner if you have any questions.

## FINANCIAL CORNER

Income & Expenses as of January 31, 2004

	<u>YTD</u> <u>Actual</u>	<u>YTD</u> <u>Budget</u>	<u>Total</u> <u>2004</u> <u>Budget</u>
<b>Income (Pledges &amp; Offerings)</b>	\$21,906	\$26,747	\$372,761
<b>Other</b>	\$10,804	\$600	\$23,700
<b>Total Operating Income</b>	\$32,710	\$27,347	\$396,461
<b>Less Operating Expenses</b>	\$40,480	\$44,354	\$452,599
<b>Surplus / Deficit</b>	\$(7,770)	\$(17,007)	(\$56,138)
<b>Carry Over Cash* Applied</b>	\$7,770	\$17,007	\$23,262
<b>Financial Deficit/Surplus</b>	0	0	(\$32,876)

*\*We used carryover cash contributions from 2003 to balance our budget in 2004.*

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• Staff, vestry, ministry listings • Weekly Sunday readings • Community Highlights • The *Courier*

## PASSAGES

### BIRTHDAYS

3/03 Georgia Cotter, Julia Vokac  
 3/05 Claus Joens, Ben Kedzo, Gerald Trimble  
 3/06 Lukas Stock, Thomas Trimble  
 3/07 Walter Boltrick, Peter Oatney  
 3/08 Robert Cooper, Lynn Kenney, Herbert Wyngard  
 3/09 Caroline Kurth  
 3/10 Anne Niparko, Michael Oatney  
 3/11 Karen Kaven  
 3/12 James Connelly, Katherine Youngheim  
 3/14 Beatrice Otten, Logan Quaint  
 3/17 Nicholas Cotton, Thomas Leduc, Patricia McKellar, Patricia Monteith, Phyllis Potter, Ruth West, Mary Ann Zawada  
 3/18 Matthew Chapman  
 3/19 Frank Renda  
 3/20 Jeanne Martens  
 3/21 David Nichols

3/22 Robert Buzby  
 3/23 Ciera Almanza, Douglas Booth, Abigail Mills, Lee Renda  
 3/24 Jessica Smith  
 3/25 Jean Angel, Deanne Baker, Claire Stahl  
 3/26 Donald Cardwell, Patricia Klix, James Leidel  
 3/27 Eleanor Dolega, Michelle Eifert, Virginia McLaughlin, Mary Donegan-Ritter  
 3/28 Ruth Durbin, Judith LeBlanc, Harold Neidigh, Peg Poceta, Ray Roberson  
 3/29 Judith Polcyn  
 3/31 Anne Brewer

### ANNIVERSARIES

3/4 Paul & Lena Gray, 44 years  
 3/7 Richard & Nan Giovanni, 5 years

### BIRTHS

We rejoice with **Andrew** and **Jean Angel** on the birth of **Oliver Thomson Angel**, born Sunday, February 1, weighing 8 lbs., 6 ozs. and measuring 22 inches long. Oliver joins 22-month-old big brother Daniel.

### DEATHS

We suffered the loss of several parishioners last month: **James Lewis**, **Jack Reid** and **Anne Libby**. Our sympathy to **Kris Hipp**, daughter of James Lewis; to **Judy Polcyn**, daughter of Jack Reid, and to the family of Anne Libby.

March 2004

PERIODICAL

CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
120 N. Military  
Dearborn, Michigan 48124  
Phone: 313-565-8450 Fax: 313-565-8515  
E-mail: office@christchurchdearborn.org

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#### Staff

The Rev. Daniel S. Appleyard, *Rector*  
The Rev. Clare L. Oatney, *Assistant Rector*  
The Rev. Margaret A. Haas, *Assistant Rector*  
JoAnn Amicangelo, *Communications Coordinator*  
F. Marshall Dicks, *Minister of Music*  
Ben Kedzo, *Assistant Sexton*  
Bob Smith, *Sexton*  
Jan Timpko, *Parish Administrator*  
Jung Yoo, *Organist*

#### Vestry

Martha Amis  
Diana Brehob  
Jane Culp  
Julia Garris  
Ross Groover  
Michele Nolan, *Senior Warden*  
Liz Leduc, *Youth Representative*  
Roger Somerville  
Thomas Trimble, *Junior Warden*  
Robert Vokac  
Susan Ward

#### Officers of the Vestry

Isabelle Behm, *Treasurer*  
George Morrison, *Clerk*

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