

## Weekly Calendar

### Sunday:

8:30 am—Eucharist, Rite 1  
9:30 am—Adult Faith Formation  
9:30 am—Breakfast (3rd Sun.)  
9:30 am—Children's Sunday School  
9:30 am—Jr. Daughters of the King (1st Sun.)  
9:30 am—Youth Sunday School  
9:30 am—Adult Choir Rehearsal  
10:30 am—Eucharist, Rite 2  
10:30 am—Children's Church

### Wednesday:

5:30 pm—Davey's Diner (community dinner)  
6:00 pm—Daughters of the King (1st Wed.)  
6:00 pm—Adult Faith Study  
6:00 pm—Children's Program  
6:00 pm—Youth Group  
7:00 pm—Adult Choir Rehearsal

### Thursday:

10 am—Eucharist & Healing Prayers  
11 am—Bible Study  
6 pm—Yoga  
6 pm—Centering Prayer

### Friday:

7 am—Men's Prayer & Breakfast

## Save the Dates

February 16, ECW Card Party  
February 17, Mardi Gras Party (evening)  
February 21, Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper  
February 22, Ash Wednesday  
March 4, St. David's Day

## Opportunities for Ministry

There are always openings for volunteers. Some current needs include:

- Greeters, Acolytes, and Readers - call the office for information
- Food Pantry help on Tuesdays and Thursdays - sign up with Fr. Rob.
- Office assistants to answer phones and do general office stuff.

St. David's Episcopal Church

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the  
**WOOD**  
st. david's episcopal church

*February*

2012



*Keeping  
a Holy Lent*

by Fr. Robert Smith

In the first three centuries of the Christian Church, a period of fasting before Easter did not exceed three or four days.

The first mention of a forty day period can be found in the Canons of Nicea circa 325 CE. The custom may have originated in the prescribed fast for candidates for Baptism, and the number forty was eventually suggested to reflect the forty day fasts of Moses, Elijah, and Jesus the Messiah. Originally, the fast actually only lasted 36 days (6 weeks of 6 days, Sundays being excluded) but the Church in Rome would add four day - from Ash Wednesday to the first Sunday of Lent.

During the early days, the fast was very strict with all flesh (meat and fish) and, in most places, eggs and dairy expressly forbidden. In addition, only one meal per day was allowed. Over the years it has become more relaxed but it is still prescribed by the Book of Common Prayer with Ash Wednesday and Good Friday proclaimed as the most important days for the fast.

I therefore, invite you to a Holy Lent.

## Youth Group News — by Christy Wilson

**Valentine's Day Childcare Fundraiser** – Do you have big plans for your sweetheart this year but can't seem to get someone to babysit? Well, look no further, here is your answer!! The EYC will provide childcare that night from 5:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. with a dinner of pizza and juice. The children will have a choice of activities to do such as homework help, movie and outdoor play. The cost is \$15 per child and each additional child is only \$10. This fundraiser will help defer the cost for the youth to go to EMERGE which is an Episcopal Youth retreat weekend at Camp Wingmann in April. Please sign up on the board in the Narthex so the EYC can now how many children to expect.

**Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner** – The EYC will sponsor the Shrove Pancake Dinner this year on Tuesday, February 21, 2012 from 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. The cost is \$5 per person or \$15 per family. Tickets will be sold in advance – starting this Sunday!!! This fundraiser will help defray the cost for our teens to attend in *EMERGE* in April. *EMERGE* is a middle school retreat at Camp Wingmann.

**Teens are you ready for the ride of your life?** – Well, for the next 7 weeks, the EYC we will be participating in a DVD series called "*The 24/7 Experience*." Come and join us on Wednesday nights and see for yourself!!!

## St. David's Day Celebration, March 4, 2012

by Janet Tucker

On Sunday, March 4, 2012, between services, we will celebrate our Annual St. David's Day. The Altar Guild of St. David's is hosting a reception for all members and visitors of St. David's. Please join us in celebrating of patron saint. Ladies, you might want to wear your best hat in honor of the day.

## Jr. & Sr. Daughters to be installed on St. David's Day

In conjunction with our annual St. David's Day celebration, both the Sr. and the Jr. Daughters of the King will members installed during the 10:30 am service. The Jr. Daughters will also have their chapter officially recognized as the Martha "Pete" Wesley McArthur Chapter.

Please join in praying for the women and the girls as they continue to prepare themselves.

## A Plea from the nursery — by Rhona Nunez

Mrs. Irene Norsic has been caring for St. David's youngsters for many years, she is now on her third generation in some families! We love and appreciate her. We have two problems in the nursery which I hope we can and will address. The cribs we had did not meet standards and had to be disposed of. Last Sunday, with three babies, plus eight other children, Miss Irene had not enough arms to go around. We must replace one or two cribs to start - as well as furnish some more serviceable toys.

What a super problem to have, too many children in the nursery!

We need another adult presence in the nursery. Some of the older kids have stepped in, taking turns on a rotating basis, which is greatly appreciated, but parents, grandparents and friends of the little ones need to volunteer an occasional Sunday morning to fill the void. The job would be from 9:30 to noon, and could be as little as once every two months.

Please consider if you would like to help. Contact Fr. Rob to get on the schedule.



*The youth serving at the Spaghetti Dinner.*

## A youth group member speaks.

by Liliana Benavides

The Saint David's youth group is a spectacular group. The person who is in charge of the group her name is Mrs. Christy; she is member of St David's choir. In youth group we have fun with different activities, lessons and topics. At the beginning and end of the youth program we get serious with prayers. But before that we eat. To be part of the youth group you by the office. On Wednesday, January 4, we had a lesson on trusting. We even did an activity on trust to get taught. Now we are starting bible study. On January 11 we were meditating and wrote devotions while Mrs. Christy read from scripture.



## The 43rd Annual Convention of the Diocese of Central Florida

by Rev. Robert Moses

The 43rd Annual Convention of the Diocese of Central Florida convened on January 22, 2012 at the upper school campus of Holy Trinity Academy in Melbourne, Florida. The convention was particularly notable as it was Bishop Howe's 23rd and last convention as the bishop ordinary of Central Florida. The convention began promptly at 9:15 am with Eucharist, the Right Rev. John Howe presiding with the Right Rev. Gerard M'Pango, bishop of the Diocese of Western Tanganyika in Tanzania preaching.

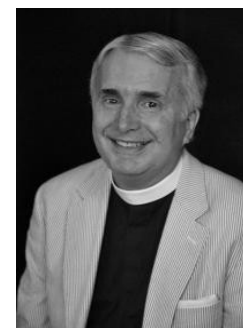
The convention first plenary session opened at 10:45 am with elections (with ballots taken throughout the day) for diocesan positions including Standing Committee, Diocesan Board, and Trustee-University of the South. For the results of the elections visit the diocesan website at [www.CFDioocese.org](http://www.CFDioocese.org).

Afternoon business involved resolutions and amendments. Five amendments to the diocese's constitutions and canons had mostly to do with who clarifications about who was eligible to hold diocesan office and who could vote in parish annual meetings. A single resolution was exciting for those who love our diocesan spiritual centers of Canterbury and Camp Wingmann. The Convention passed unanimously a resolution to designate one Sunday per year as Canterbury-Wingmann Sunday with prayers to be offered, words to spoken, and offerings to made for those two centers. The specific Sunday has yet to be announced but we look forward to honoring and supporting these worthy institutions.

The day also saw two important addresses. In the morning Bishop Howe offered what would be his final address as the bishop ordinary to an annual convention. As a closing to the convention the Rev. Gregory Brewer, bishop-elect, shares his joys and hopes for the work that he will begin with us very soon.

Ultimately, Bishop Howe's closing remarks were most fitting - not only as an admonition for the future but as a descriptor for his episcopacy in Central Florida:

"Whatever else happens in The Episcopal Church, the Anglican Communion, or the kingdoms of this world, *Dear Friends, Love one another.*"



*Rev. Gregory Brewer*

## St. David's 2012 Annual Meeting

By Dick Kaiser, Junior Warden

Saint David's Episcopal Church, Inc. held its 2012 annual meeting on Sunday, January 22 at 9:15 as required by our by-laws and in accordance with Florida statutes governing corporations. More than one hundred interested parishioners were in attendance

The annual meeting is a once a year gathering at which we listen, learn, and share the progress of our mission as a church. The agenda included the 2012 vestry elections, a ministry review survey, ministry updates, a financial review, a rector's report, and open time for questions and answers.

The highlight of the meeting was an overview presented by Fr. Robert Moses of the new formation of the Ministry Action Committee (MAC) which creates more opportunity for lay leadership and participation.

Fr. Bob closed the meeting with an overview of our spiritual health and direction. His view is that we as a congregation share a deep bond of love and caring for each other which makes St. David's a very special place to worship.

## 2012 Vestry Elections

By Dick Kaiser, Nominating Committee

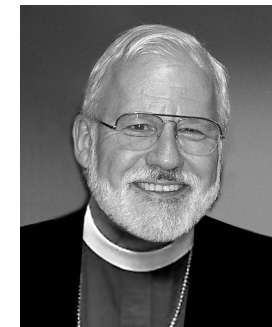
Each year at our Annual Meeting we elect new members to our vestry, replacing those members that are retiring.

This year presented a unique challenge because we needed to elect six new members to fill our required complement of nine. In years past it has been somewhat difficult to recruit nominees. This year, however, the nominating committee received nomination for nine qualified candidates. This was very gratifying, displaying a broad willingness of our congregation to step up and serve our church.

The election went off without a hitch with ninety two qualified ballots counted. Because of the need to fill six vacancies and to resume the required rotation of electing three vestry members annually the terms of the newly elected had to be adjusted.

The results are as follow: Joe Adams, Dick Kaiser, and Charles Nunez were elected to three year terms; Anna Butler and Millie Schaffer were elected to two year terms, and Nancy Mumm was elected to a one year term.

On behalf of our Parish thanks to Barbra Jones, Jeff Lake, and Kitty Wilson for offering to serve.



*Rt. Rev. John W. Howe*

St. David's Episcopal Church  
Cash Flow Analysis  
For the Year Ended December 31, 2011

	Budget	Actual	Difference favorable (unfavorable)
<b>Cash In:</b>			
Plate & Pledge	\$ 290,050	\$ 278,943	\$ (11,107)
All Other	264,715	324,684	59,969
<b>Total Cash In</b>	<b>554,765</b>	<b>603,627</b>	<b>48,862</b> (1)
<b>Cash Out:</b>			
Diocesan Support	29,005	29,005	-
Laity & Staff Development	2,300	1,793	507
Worship	165,496	168,470	(2,974) (2)
Programs	88,799	84,004	4,795 (3)
Outreach	7,275	10,367	(3,092) (4)
Property	115,491	123,045	(7,554) (5)
Administration	70,145	65,816	4,329 (6)
Mortgage	94,800	94,800	-
<b>Total Cash Out</b>	<b>573,311</b>	<b>577,300</b>	<b>(3,989)</b>
<b>Net Cash Gain (Loss)</b>	<b>\$ (18,546)</b>	<b>\$ 26,327</b>	<b>\$ 44,873</b>

(1) We received \$27,545 in December 2011, which was expected in January 2012, so we will be short that amount in 2012.

(2) Altar flower income and expense was not budgeted for 2011 as we did not have historical information. The actual income was \$2,441 and the expense was \$3,323. It has been included in the 2012 budget.

(3) Savings in the After School Program payroll account for \$4,053 of the total Programs savings.

(4) Because of the generosity of the congregation in giving for the pantry and to the discretionary funds, we were able to extend our outreach programs.

(5) Property includes all of the expenses to maintain the church campus and rectory. We ended up spending \$9,857 for the unbudgeted replacement of two A/C units.

(6) Administration was less than budgeted due to savings in payroll and the renegotiation of the copier lease, as well as a concerted effort to save on office supplies and other expenses.

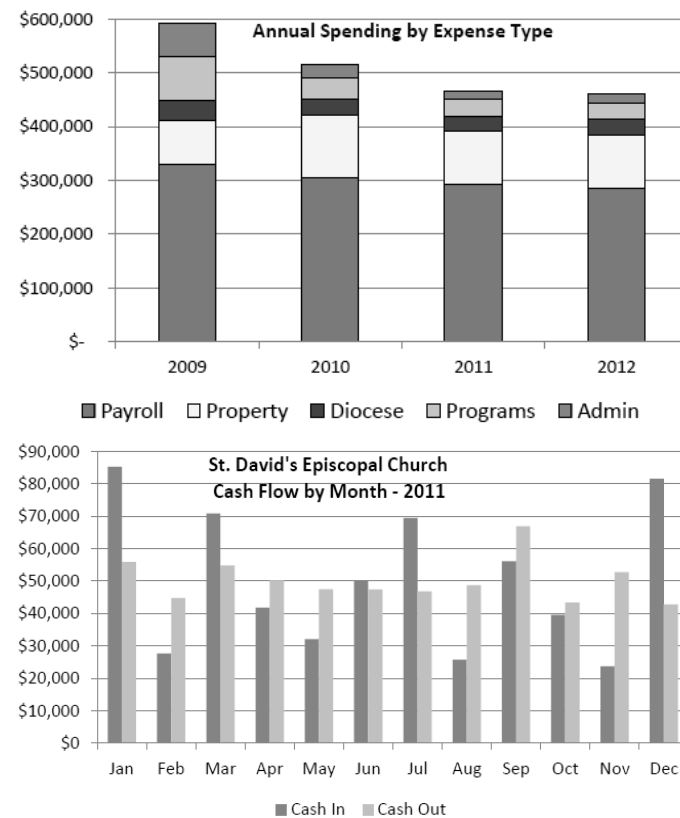
### The Ministry Action Committee given a new direction.

By Rev. Robert Moses, MAC Chair

At the Annual Meeting, the *Ministry Action Committee (MAC)* with the approval of the vestry outlined a new ministry and lay leadership direction. The new direction includes eight commissions which will work as extensions of the MAC: *stewardship, facilities & grounds, worship, pastoral care, faith formation, mission & outreach, fellowship, and membership.*

Each commission aims to prioritize and evaluate the needs of the parish within its respective charge. The commission will then find ways of meeting those needs by developing ministry, facilitating volunteers, and carrying out ministry.

Would you like to sit on one of the commissions?  
Please contact Fr. Bob, Fr. Rob, or any other commission members.



The for spikes for "cash in" were received payments from the trusts.

### Stewardship Commission is ready to work!

by Brittany Sale, Stewardship Commission

The newly formed Stewardship Commission is making plans to engage St. David's members in holistic stewardship that includes time, talent, and treasure. Committee members include Dick Johnson (Team Leader), Janet Tucker, Brittany Sale, Kristina Munday, Fr. Robert Smith, and Fr. Robert Moses.



Our first task is to thank the 58 families that have made a pledge for 2012. Thank you! St. David's exists because of your generous offerings. If you haven't turned in your pledge card, it's not too late! You can still pledge an offering that will be used to pay for the programs, outreach, and daily operations of our church.

The Stewardship Commission is committed to keeping you informed about the financial issues facing our church. Look for monthly updates in the Word.

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### Adult Faith Formation

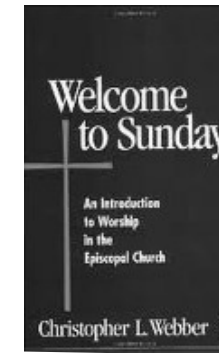
#### Welcome to Sunday

begins February 5, 2012  
9:30 - 10:20 am  
in the Library

The perfect book for newcomers who are often confused by the worship service, *Welcome to Sunday* is also an excellent book for those who have been sitting in the pews for years. Episcopal priest The Rev.

Christopher Webber takes the reader from the sidewalk outside the church, guides them through the service, and sends them out again when the service has ended. Webber explains the postures, the Christian year, the colors we use during various seasons, and all the elements in the Service of the Eucharist. As in Webber's very popular *Welcome to the Episcopal Church*, the tone of the easy-to-read book is conversational, making it useful for parish study.

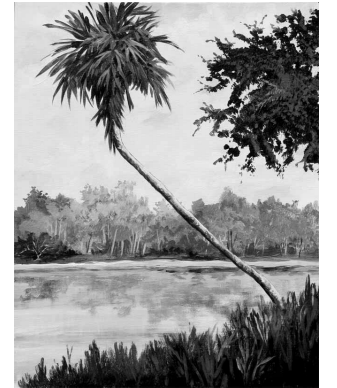
See Fr. Robert Moses to get your book for which a small fee - \$12 - will be collected.



### Painting along at Paint Along Studios.

By Ellen Simms

Sometimes it's all about fellowship. That's why we are putting together a Sunday afternoon of fun to paint at Paint Along Studios in Downtown Lakeland. Owner, David Collins, is an artist, a great teacher and a really fun guy. His stock answer to the excuse, "I can't even draw a straight line," is "Great, there aren't any straight lines in my pictures!" The painting proposed for this outing is *Lonesome Palm*. It is a very loose landscape, so it's easy to paint, says Collins.



Lonesome Palm  
in grayscale

The idea behind the get together is to provide a venue for us to get to know each other a little better, and have a few laughs along the way. We're looking for a Sunday afternoon in March to reserve for a "private party" at Paint Along Studios (123 S. Kentucky Avenue, between Main & Lemon). The class needs to be between 15 and 24 people - and yes, men are invited, too! The cost is \$35 per person, which gets you all of the art supplies and instructions. We just have to bring the good humor and any snacks and beverages we'd like to enjoy.

If you're interested, please call Ellen Simms at 688-5251 or email her at [fastframe491@hotmail.com](mailto:fastframe491@hotmail.com). For more info on Paint Along Studios, please visit their website at [www.PaintAlongStudios.com](http://www.PaintAlongStudios.com).

### Thanks to Bev Mulholland for a new freezer.

by Rose Kaiser, Fellowship Commission Chair

Go in to the kitchen pantry, turn left - and left again. What do you see? There used to be an old chest freezer which had all but lost its seal - boxes stacked on top to keep the lid closed. But no more!!

A big thank you goes to Bev Mulholland for her generous gift of a new 17 ft<sup>3</sup> upright freezer. Stop by and take a peek in the pantry off the kitchen. The freezer gets a great deal of use by ECW, Altar Guild, Davey's Diner, and the outreach pantry.

### 1st Annual Mardi Gras party is coming soon. - by the Fellowship Commission Chair

St. David's will host its first annual Mardi Gras Party on Friday, February 17. The festivities will begin at 6:00 pm, wrapping up by 8 pm. Please come enjoy some traditional New Orleans treats as well as some fabulous fellowship

### Annual Valentine's Card Party — by Janet Rainey

The Episcopal Church Women of St. David's will host their annual Valentine's Card Party February 16, 2012 at 11:30 A.M. One hundred women of the community vie for tickets to this function, noted to be the "best card party" in Lakeland.

The funds generated by this function aid the ECW in Out-reach and In-reach projects. Previously, monies were donated to Anchor House, Talbot House, and other community projects. In house projects included the renovation of kitchen counter tops and miscellaneous kitchen supplies.

The participation of parishioners in aiding the ECW is greatly needed. This includes help in the preparation of the food and setting up the Parish Hall on the 15<sup>th</sup>, and assisting in the serving of the delicious luncheon on the 16<sup>th</sup> to those who have purchased tickets. Call Janet Rainey @ 425-7220 to sign up.



Players at the 2011 card party.

## A missionary returns to Africa.

By Jesse Casanova



Mr. Jesse Casanova with a friend in Togo.

A few months ago (Oct 2011) there was a small breakthrough in the global fight to eradicate Malaria. Malaria is a very tricky parasite that enters the bloodstream of persons via the infected anopheles mosquito. Having had Malaria myself, I know firsthand what people experience when they are

infected by this parasite which can wreak havoc on the human body - causing multiple organ failure and death in as little as a week. Although scientists are still on the fence about calling this a vaccine, it has been proven to cut Malaria infections by as much as 50% - a huge number when you come to understand that the number one killer in Africa is Malaria.

In response to this good news, various organizations are coming together to begin new vaccine campaigns. However, before these campaigns can begin, the general population needs to be educated and programs need to be developed so that the chances for success are greater. As such, I will be working with several organizations, as well as Peace Corps, to help organize these campaigns and create curricula that will be used by future peace corps volunteers in their villages. I will be involved with this program for one year. If accepted, I leave on January 29, 2012.

## ONE OF OUR COMMUNITY PARTNERS

### Girl Scout Troop 89

by Anna Reed & Emma Moses

"Hi! We are from Girl Scout Troop 89 and we meet at St. David's every Monday. Thank you for letting us meet there.

We are currently working on our Bronze Award. The Bronze Award is a special service award for Girl Scouts. We are helping the Migrant Workers.

Also, we are raising money to go to Savannah, Georgia. This is where Girl Scouts was started 100 years ago! Part of the money we raise will be from Cookie Sales. We hope to see you on February 26<sup>th</sup> when we will be selling cookies at



# Stories of Life & Love

## a parish & a community in profile

### A New Year's tradition begun.

By Meredith Prokuski

Whether it's kissing the one you love at midnight or eating black-eyed peas for dinner, we all have our own ideas about the best way to ring in the new year. This year, I stumbled upon an unexpectedly wonderful way to start the new year simply by coming to church.

My son Jonathan was scheduled to serve as an acolyte-in-training on New Year's Day. Admittedly, I was not pleased with the timing of his first day of training. Tom and I have a long-standing tradition of enjoying New Year's brunch with a group of friends, and bringing Jonathan to church would mean being late for the party. But how could I say no, especially when I was so excited about him following in my footsteps as an acolyte?

I brought Jonathan to church and led him back to the Vesting Room. I was relieved to see my father serving that day, and I handed Jonathan over to him to get ready for the service. I waited anxiously outside to get the obligatory pictures. As I snapped pictures and showed him where he would sit, I noticed no one was coming in to take over and show him the ropes. Eventually we realized that there were no acolytes to be found, scheduled or not. My father joked, "You may be putting on the old robe today, Mer!" I laughed nervously, praying someone would swoop in and save the day. After a few minutes, Father Rob announced that Caleb Butler would serve with Jonathan. Whew! I was off the hook. I asked if Caleb had carried the cross before. "Oh, no. He's an acolyte-in-training just like Jonathan. You're our crucifer." Yikes! I was a senior in high school the last time I did this, and now I was going to lead two young men who had never lifted a torch?

As it turns out, everything comes back to you. Jonathan and Caleb grabbed their torches and followed along like troopers; they did an excellent job. I can honestly say that it was one of the most touching services of which I have been honored to play a part. The chance to serve my church, instruct two new acolytes, and watch my son assist my father in preparation for Holy Communion outshone any New Year's Day tradition I could imagine.



Three generations of servers at the altar:  
John Bunch, Meredith Prokuski and Jonathan Fortin.

*Would you or yours like to serve as a liturgical minister? Eucharistic Ministers, Readers, Acolytes, Greeters, and Ushers are always needed. If you are interested please contact Fr. Bob or Fr. Rob so we can get you started in one of these very rewarding ministries.*

### Guardian ad litem

by Sheila Reynolds

"Would you like to make a significant difference in the life of a child? About 1,800 children in our 10th Judicial District need compassionate, informed persons to advocate for them. These children are in the dependency court system after being abandoned or removed from abusive or neglectful homes. The Court appoints the Guardian ad Litem Program to represent the "best interest" of these children. Training and support are provided. The volunteers are ordinary people who do extraordinary things for some of our community's most vulnerable children. The need is critical. If you feel you could/would make a difference in the life of a child, please contact Diane Schmelz at the Guardian office at 534-4605. Nancy Moses and Shelia Reynolds can share their GAL experiences with you.

Thank you so much.



### A NOTE FROM YOUR VESTRY

#### A Word from Charles Nunez - Sr. Warden

Thanks to the St David's electorate for your confidence. My goals in serving will be to strengthen our growing foundations of evangelism, service, and financial stability. We have a wonderful new vestry team which will work together to ensure our continued existence as a parish. We have some tough decisions to make to overcome our sliding membership and financial condition and we will get the job done. Please pray together as families to determine how each member can contribute to our growth and stability. Get involved and consider how you can help financially. But most of all we need each other's love.



Mr. Charles Nunez  
Senior Warden

Do you have a story that you would like to share? ...a story of your faith journey? ...of some mission activity? ...of a community partner, a community agency, or a community event? We would love to hear your story and feature it right here!

It's simple: just write the story down and get it to either Rhona Nunez or Fr. Robert Moses. Keep stories under 500 words. We will edit for length and style but not content.

We will then see that it gets its place in *The Word*. though maybe not the month you submit.