

St David's Episcopal Church, Bean Blossom, Indiana

Advent 2007

As you read this, random scraps of Thanksgiving dinner may still persist in your fridge. Meanwhile, in just one week, the 1st Sunday of the Advent season kicks off a new Christian Year. And here we are, poised between these two points on the calendar, still absorbing the one while moving into the other. Before all is swept away by the holiday tsunami, might we catch our spiritual breath and take stock in this in-between time?

Traditionally, Thanksgiving is a time of gratitude for the harvest. Advent is all about new beginnings and new hope. On the one hand, we give thanks for what has been granted. On the other, we pray and work for what is to come. When we use this language of harvest and thanksgiving, we often think of those external things that come our way through good fortune, hard work, and right living. But there's another way to understand and receive the harvest, remembering to give thanks for the harvest of those internal things that come forth when we tend the soil of our spirit.

What has been your harvest in this past year? The Apostle Paul lists the fruit of the Spirit as these: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. What sort of year have you had raising these things in your life? (It might help to reflect on each fruit individually, remembering specific examples of fruitfulness from your experience).

It's very likely that not all the fruit of the Spirit has matured and ripened yet. (It would be unusual if it did!) But have you, perhaps, seen the first signs of germination? That's a harvest! Praise God for whatever growth has taken place. Don't let perfectionism obscure genuine progress. Diminished yields and even crop failures are part of the spiritual life. We have good years and we have bad years, hailstorms and droughts. Let's always remember that we're talking about the fruit of the Spirit, here. Faith promises (and requires me to believe) that we are all increasing in fruitfulness, despite the occasional setback. After all, God is involved and knows a thing or two about fruitfulness.

Moving into the new Church Year, what are your goals with respect to fruitfulness in the Spirit? In the fallow season, the farmer prepares for new planting, new tending and new harvests, choosing which things will be emphasized and given special care, learning from higher yields in one area how to produce similar results in others.

In the spiritual life, the cultivation of patience will pay dividends in love (and vice versa). Likewise, the cultivation of joy can bring us greater peace. We can be gentle with ourselves and at the same time exercise more self-control in working for the next harvest.

In the coming year, individually and corporately, we'll once again till the spiritual soil with the implements of Word and Sacrament, prayer and study, fellowship and service. We'll sow with hope and prayer. We'll try stay ahead of the weeds of fear and selfishness. And, in keeping with the Advent theme of "waiting", we'll in abide in faith, doing our part and trusting in the Lord of the Harvest to grant the increase.

Jonathan +

What is Advent?

Advent was the last season to be officially added to the church calendar, in about 600 AD. It was made the first season of the church year because it begins the story of the events of Christ's life, death, and resurrection. Advent always includes four Sundays before Christmas, this year (2007) beginning on **December 2**. Originally, in the Eastern Church, Advent focused on the Annunciation (when the angels told Mary that she would bear a son); but in the West it came to concern the first Coming at the Nativity, the future Coming at the end of time, and the present coming, through grace, to the hearts of men. Thus the themes of consciousness of the coming judgment and of joyful expectation have shaped our observance of Advent for centuries. Our Advent wreath candles, symbolizing the coming of the Light of the world, are to remind us of these themes. It has often been customary to have one rose-colored candle to symbolize joyful expectation. For more advent facts take a look at: <http://anglicansonline.org/special/advent.html>

The Meaning of Greening

Why in the world do we haul a tree into our homes and hang things on it? And speaking of the stuff that we hang "just so" all over this tree...what does that mean to us? Does the wreath that gets hung on the door mean anything...or is it just "pretty?" If you would like to know the answers to these questions, instead of just going through the motions every Christmas Season, please plan to attend the "greening of the church" on **December 23**. This time is so much more than "just decorating the church" and we should treat it as such. It is truly a time for our church family to be together...all generations...all backgrounds...one family! Just as your individual families cherish the traditions that you have created, so must St David's create and cherish theirs. So, with that in mind, we are encouraging the greening to be a time of young and old (and those in the middle) to stay for a while after Sunday Service and be with family.

There are many reasons for the failure to comprehend Christ's teaching...but the chief cause which has engendered all these misconceptions is this: that Christ's teaching is considered to be such as can be accepted, or not accepted, without changing one's life. - Leo Tolstoy

Make an Advent Wreath at Home

Did you know that Advent wreaths were originally used in the home? They didn't become popular in churches until the middle of the twentieth century. You can make an Advent wreath with either four or five candles.

How to Make an Advent Wreath:

To begin, put four candles on a wreath or at least in a circle. Traditionally the candles are purple, because in antiquity, purple dye was very expensive and it was the color of royalty. We use purple for Advent because it is the season of the coming of the King. If you can't get purple candles, you can substitute blue ones. You can also make one of the candles pink if you like—technically, it is rose colored. If you have a fifth candle, it goes in the center of the wreath and it should be white.

How to Use Your Advent Wreath:

The idea is to use the wreath in conjunction with worship services or personal or family devotions on the four Sundays in Advent. You light candles at the beginning of each service and snuff them out at the end.

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- On the first Sunday in Advent, you light the first candle. Have your service, then snuff out the candle.
- On the second Sunday in Advent, you light two candles, first the one from the previous Sunday, then the second one. Have your service, then snuff out the candles.
- On the third Sunday in Advent, you light the two candles from the previous weeks, in the order you lit them before, then you add the third one. Have your service, then snuff out the candles.
- On the fourth Sunday in Advent, you light the three candles from the previous weeks, in the order you lit them before, then you light the fourth one. Have your service, then snuff out the candles. You should get a stair-step effect, since each candle is a different length by now.

If you have a fifth candle in the center, then on Christmas Day you light the four candles in the order you lit them before, and then you light the center candle. Have your service, then snuff out the candles. You notice how I emphasize snuffing out the candles at

the end of each service? This has absolutely no liturgical significance whatsoever, but it is vitally important and you must not leave it out. It prevents the candles from burning your house down. I recommend that you snuff out the candles, rather than blowing them out. The reason is that if you blow them out, you might spray hot wax over everything.

Prayers for Use with the Advent Wreath:

When you use an Advent Wreath in personal or family devotions, you can use whatever scriptures and prayers you like. If you need a point of departure, here is something to get you started. Please don't take it as a set form. You can use different readings, you can modify the prayers, and you can add hymns, carols, or other prayers as you like.

On the First Sunday in Advent

- Light one purple candle
- Read Isaiah 60:2-3

Lord God, we light this candle to thank you for your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, who is the light of the world. We who have sat in darkness have seen a great light, the light of Jesus Christ, our salvation. We give you thanks and praise in Jesus' name, because he lives and reigns with you in your glory, and in the unity of the Holy Spirit, Amen.

On the Second Sunday in Advent

- Light two purple candles
- Read Mark 1:4

Lord God, we light this candle to thank you for your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, who is the way. We who like sheep have gone astray have found the way to you through Jesus Christ. We give you thanks and praise in Jesus' name, because he lives and reigns with you in your glory, and in the unity of the Holy Spirit, Amen.

On the Third Sunday in Advent

- Light three purple candles
- Read Isaiah 35:10

Lord God, we light this candle to thank you for your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, who brings us great joy. We who have walked in the shadow of the valley of death have found life in the resurrection of Jesus Christ. We give you thanks and praise in Jesus' name, because he lives and reigns with you in your glory, and in the unity of the Holy Spirit, Amen.

On the Fourth Sunday in Advent

- Light all the purple candles
- Read Isaiah 9:6-7

Lord God, we light this candle to thank you for your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, who is the Prince of Peace. We who live in discord and strife have found peace in the promise of eternal life, through Jesus Christ. We give you thanks and praise in Jesus' name, because he lives and reigns with you in your glory, and in the unity of the Holy Spirit, Amen.

On Christmas Eve or Christmas Day

Remember, it isn't Christmas Eve until sundown on December 24!

- Light all the purple candles and the white candle
- Read Luke 1:68-79 and Luke 2:1-20

We praise you, Lord God, because on this day, your Word became flesh in our Savior Jesus Christ, was born of a woman, and walked among us as a man. Help us to imitate your incarnation, by manifesting our faith in our conduct as well as in our speech. To you, O Lord, we give our honor, praise, worship, and love, in the most holy and precious name of the One who is born today; because He lives and reigns with you in your glory, and in the unity of the Holy Spirit, Amen.

*This information was taken from: <http://www.kencollins.com/question-10.htm>
--from Judy Huber*

A Visit from “The Lost Boys from Sudan”

The Tri-Parish Coalition (St. Paul's, Columbus – St. David's, Bean Blossom – Trinity, Bloomington) planned and organized a special event for the recent 170th Indianapolis Diocesan Convention held in Columbus, Indiana on October 26-26. We invited “The Lost Boys from Sudan” singing and dancing group to participate in our convention and worship service on both Saturday and Sunday.

Performing Dinka native folk songs and hymns and using their recently made drums and rebabas for accompaniment, the Sudanese had the crowd clapping and singing along.

Fleeing from a horrible civil war in Sudan, 26,000 boys (many as young as 6 or 7) were being conscripted into the army. The boys (Christian) did not want to join this army so they were being killed to prevent them from growing up to fight against the current regime. The boys walked for hundreds of miles before ending up in Ethiopia. After staying in Ethiopia for two or three years they were once again forced to leave and began walking again. Finally after a total of four years they arrived in Kenya – 3/4 of the boys died during this ordeal. Those that were left settled in Kenya in camps provided by the government. Churches and international relief organizations (Red Cross, etc.) throughout the world have slowly been bringing groups of these boys to settle in various places around the globe.

The Episcopal Church has sponsored this group of boys. The church offers their worship services in both English and Dinka, and helps with English lessons, job skills and placement, housing assistance, and support. All of the men have been in United States now for over 5 years.

Mike and I were pleased to have two of the young men stay with us overnight during their visit to the Convention. Peter and James were talkative, very polite and nice. While discussing their ordeal, we learned that most of the young men have no idea where their families are, how old they are or if they will ever be able to go home. I asked if they had girlfriends and Peter replied, yes, she was in Southern

Sudan though and they were only able to talk about once every two or three months. “You know, the phone system is not so very good,” he said.

We cannot imagine a life like this – and to see these young men smiling and still having faith in God is amazing. It has given me a renewed sense of faith that someday we will have peace in this world and no more children will have to die.

Peace, Marilyn Day

The soul should always stand ajar, ready to welcome the ecstatic experience. - Emily Dickinson

Master Plan Committee Begins Work

Over the past year or so, the Long-Range Planning Committee (chaired by Gene Niednagel) has worked to assemble and compile the needs, hopes, wishes, and dreams of our parish. With the completion of their report, a Master Plan Committee has now been formed. Its goal is to draw up a roadmap for how our physical facilities might be changed, improved, or added to, to best serve the needs and desires of St. David’s for ministry and mission. The Master Plan Committee includes Verne Sindlinger as chair, Jan Benham, Sandy Fittz, Jonathan Hutchison, Gene Niednagel, Jennifer Rekers, Carol Ruffin, and Eliot Smith. Tim Fleck, who is not only a loyal St. David’s parishioner but also an architect with the firm of Woollen, Molzan and Partners, is serving as our consultant.

What is a Master Plan?

A Master Plan is both a general overview of what the church’s physical facilities will be in the future (as a goal or general guiding ideal) and a step-by-step plan for getting from “here” to “there.” Arriving at the final goal in most cases takes place in stages, with each stage involving some mix of new construction and remodeling/renovation of existing space. Sometimes the final stage will not be implemented until 10 or even 20 years after the master planning process is begun, depending on the parish’s needs and financial resources. Hence, the planning process makes sure that at each stage, the overall facilities are attractive and functional.

Why bother with a master plan, rather than jumping straight into designing and constructing additional space or remodeling existing buildings? The reason is that construction undertaken strictly for today’s perceived needs might not fit well with what is needed years or decades down the road. The master planning process can ensure that each stage of the overall project makes sense in terms of a coherent vision of the overall goal, so nothing that is done at one time needs to be torn down or redone at a later stage.

What has the committee done so far?

The Master Plan Committee has held two meetings, and plans to continue meeting at least once a month. St. David’s has signed a contract with Woollen, Molzan and Partners for their services in the master planning process, and of course Tim Fleck will be the main person who works with us. Tim gave a presentation after the service on Nov. 11, 2007 outlining his firm’s experience working with churches (including many Episcopal churches) and showing us a few master plans that they have produced. At the committee meeting on Nov. 13, time was set aside for input from members of the congregation of any ideas, suggestions, or concerns about the master planning process.

What will the committee do next?

Tim Fleck will generate a number of possible design ideas and discuss them with the committee for feedback and refinement. As work toward the final plan continues, there will be additional opportunities for members of the parish to review our progress and to submit comments and suggestions. By spring, the goal is to have completed both the overall plan and a specification of

“Phase 1” – the first segment of the plan that will actually be constructed. At that time, the Stewardship Committee will undertake a capital fund-raising campaign, and assuming its success, detailed architectural design and construction of the first phase can begin. --Eliot Smith

Parish News & Notes

Yoga

Yoga at St. David's will be continuing on Tuesday evenings from 5:30-6:30 in the parish hall. There will be no classes on Christmas Day or New Year's Day. See Desiree Hensel for details (988-2037).

Tax-Saving Opportunity for Seniors

The Pension Protection Act of 2006 permits individuals to make gifts of \$100,000 or less from an IRA directly to a qualifying charity without recognizing the assets gifted as income. Unless Congress takes action to extend the provision, it will expire Dec. 31, 2007. Only distributions from traditional and Roth IRAs are eligible and the distribution cannot be made before you are age 70 and a half. The IRA trustee or custodian must make the payment from the IRA directly to the charity. Your church is a qualifying charity, so you might want to consider pre-paying some or all of your pledge for 2008 in this manner. A few of our members have already designated that their required minimum distribution for 2007 be sent directly to St. David's. Please be advised that, depending on your income, the downside to this provision is that you cannot claim the deduction for the charitable contribution in this instance. Consult your tax advisor for more information or call Sandy Ridenour at 597-0135.

A Note from Your Treasurer

I will be out of town from December 17 until the end of the year. Please do not send any pledge payments to my home address. Send them to the church address: P.O. Box 1798, Nashville, IN 47448. Tom Hensel, assistant treasurer, will then be able to deposit them on a timely basis. Thank you, Sandy Ridenour.

Valentines!

Waycross Valentine Making Party, **Saturday, Feb. 9th from 1 to 5 PM**. Celebrating love by making homemade valentines. Hosted by Van, Jane and Jenny beers. For more info contact Van Beers. van_eric_beers@yahoo.com or 597-0728

Mother's Cupboard's annual campaign begins in early November. Please consider making a generous contribution to help Mother's Cupboard continue to feed the hungry and give food from the pantry, no questions asked, to folks in Brown County who are struggling. The Cupboard provides an average of nearly 70 meals daily. Please give what you are able; \$10 will still feed a family of 5 for a day; \$50 will feed 5 families; \$150 keeps the doors open one day; \$1,050 keeps them open for a week; \$4,500 will keep us going for a month. Please don't let Mother's Cupboard be bare. Make checks payable to Mother's Cupboard. **Mail your tax deductible gift today to:** Mother's Cupboard, PO Box 825, Nashville, IN 47448

Merely to resist evil with evil by hating those who hate us and seeking to destroy them, is actually no resistance at all. It is active and purposeful collaboration in evil that brings the Christian into direct and intimate contact with the same source of evil and hatred which inspires the acts of his enemy. It leads in practice to a denial of Christ and to the service of hatred rather than love.

- Thomas Merton, from *Passion For Peace*

Parish and Diocesan Events

Theatre!

Approximately 20 parishioners will be attending the fall theatre event at the Little Nashville Opry on November 25. Presented as a benefit for the Community Foundation, the group will enjoy the "Soul Revue," a performance by the Afro-American groups at IU. Carol Ruffin will coordinate a "soul food" dinner before the production. Needless to say, a good time will be had by all!

Please stay tuned for the announcement about a spring theatre trip. --*Judy Huber*

St. Nicholas Play begins Preparation for Christmas

The Advent season spectacular on the life and times of St. Nicholas returns to St. David's at 4 p.m. Saturday, December 8, as storytellers and musicians present *Nicholas, A Garland of Tales for the Nights before Christmas*.

Written by Pamela Grenfell Smith and directed by Ed Fleming, the one-act play is for all children and those who love them -- an interactive event for the entire community and a joyous look at the power of love and giving.

The story of St. Nicholas has been handed down through many generations in many countries. He has been called Papa Noel, Father Christmas, Sinter Klaas or Santa Claus. Throughout the play, the history and legend of St. Nicholas weaves a story of a man who used his entire fortune in God's service to help the needy, the sick, and the suffering. Nicholas' work was particularly with children and families, sailors, and the poor, hungry and homeless. Foremost on his mind were issues of justice and mercy.

For admission and in keeping with the theme of caring for others, each person is asked to bring a can of food for Mother's Cupboard.

Featured during the Nicholas performance will be singing by Jonathan and Deborah Hutchison and medieval hymns by the St. David's choir, arranged and directed by Joe Ridenour. Cheryl Fleming will gather the children as their the storyteller, assisted by Jim and Judy Huber. Gene Niednagel will play Nicholas and Debbie Stone will be the Deacon.

St. Nicholas Day is observed December 6 by many Christian traditions at the beginning of Advent when we are preparing for the coming of Christ into our lives. Hospitality during the play and a festive reception in the parish hall after the performance is being organized by Carol Ruffin and her crew.

More Holiday Happenings...

Sunday, December 2 (the 1st Sunday of Advent) - There will be a house blessing immediately following Sunday worship, to **celebrate the new home of Maggie and Ralph Linscott**, 625 Artist Drive in Nashville. All are invited to attend and refreshments will be provided.

Sunday, December 2 - Wednesday, December 5 – The Vicar will, as is his custom, attend the annual **Clergy Advent Silent Retreat** at Waycross.

Sunday, December 16 @ 5:30 pm – 2nd Annual Brown County **Messiah Sing** at Nashville United Methodist Church. Singers are encouraged to bring scores and participate along with members of the Bloomington Chamber singers.

A JOURNEY TO CHRIST

By Barbara (Moberly) Faul

Let's imagine we're taking a journey
To a country far over the sea,
Strangers we'll be in an ancient land,
Come, back through the ages with me.

We soon shall be nearing a city
As down from the hills we descend.
There's Bethlehem, city of David,
It lies just ahead 'round the bend.

From whence comes this glorious singing?
We're nearing a jubilant throng.
All singing and shouting Hosanna,
Peace and Good Will is their song.

And from whence comes the light in our pathway?
The sky is all full with this light
When just as we came from the hillside
Our pathway was black with the night.

And why do the shepherds now gather?
Should they with their sheep not abide?
They say it t'was voices of angels we heard
Singing tonight at their side.

Come near to the shepherds and listen,
For they're telling a wonderful thing.
The angels have brought them a message
Of a Child born this night to be King.

And the radiant glow in the heavens
'Tis a star; see they are watching the light.
Now they follow it onward and onward,
Let's hurry; e're lost from our sight.

Perhaps we may enter the palace
The shepherds must know of the road
That leads to the City-State mansion,
So fitting for this King's abode.

Oh, 'tis certain He lies in a palace,
Wrapped in garments of gold, silken hue,
And most likely a gem-studded cradle will rock,
As we silently view.

And He's doubtless surrounded by riches
With inherited titles renowned
While jewels and rarest of treasures,
Enhance the gold lay of His crown.

It seems the whole city now follows!
What joy has been wrought on this night.
Even men of great wisdom have followed the star,
When they saw its great light.

They're bringing rare gifts from each country,
Of Frankincense, Myrrh, and Gold.
Oh, if I but had wealth I'd bestow Him,
With gifts that His Kingdom can't hold.

But why are we nearing the stables?
The star from its course is astray.
We stand amid humblest dwellings
This can't be the place the He lay.

Look, the star hovers over the stables,
The wise men and shepherds now kneel
And there's a babe in a small, lonely manger,
'Tis the Child we've been seeking I feel.

Come closely that we may behold Him
I see no rich crown on His head.
But, there in a symbol of righteousness
A halo hath crowned Him instead.

It seems I recall of this Christ Child,
The prophets have told it before.
The true Son of God is this baby
We've read of His birth o'er and o'er.

But why did we not know this Savior?
We have sought but this earthly reward.
While in humility, born of a virgin,
There is Jesus the Savior, our Lord.

And I wonder how many would know Him,
How many lost sight of the way?
Forgetting the words of the prophets,
How many could find Him today?

How many have wandered in darkness,
Not trusting the Light sent from God.
Forgetting the meaning of Christmas
As through generations we've tried.

Today the whole world seeks a Savior,
For Peace and Good Will among men.
While multitudes search after riches
As we might have done even then.

When, if only we'd heed, it will guide us,
The light of His word is aglow.
It is showing a pathway to Jesus,
The same as the Star long ago.

And today He's that same humble Savior,
He cares not for treasures of earth.
Just the gift of our love he is asking.
We'll find Him as they did at His birth.

--from Marilyn Day

Worship and Music Notes

In ADVENT –

December 2 is the first Sunday of Advent and the beginning of the new liturgical year. For the four Sundays of Advent we'll have an **Advent wreath** and, before and after the Gospel readings, we'll sing the beautiful and ancient *O Antiphons*.

The Choir is participating in *Nicholas, A Garland of Tales for the Nights Before Christmas* on Saturday, December 8 at 4 PM. This is an event for children and the grownups who love them. Be thinking about whom you'd like to bring – admission is a can of food for Mother's Cupboard!

There will be opportunity again this year to **give a poinsettia** to honor someone, in thanksgiving, or in memory of someone. No details yet, but stand by! After church on Sunday, December 23 we'll do the **Greening of the Church**, so if you can stick around and help decorate, your help will be welcomed.

At CHRISTMAS –

Festival Eucharist with carols, organ, choir and candlelight at 7 PM on Christmas Eve.

Quiet Eucharist with sunlight and guitar at 10 AM on Christmas Day.

More carols and Christmas scriptures on Sunday, December 30.

At EPIPHANY –

We'll have a particularly short Epiphany this year because Easter is very early this year – March 23, can you believe it? – so Ash Wednesday falls on February 6. Maybe we should feature a month of George Cullinan's Greatest Hits? Because...

There's some sad news –

Dagnabbit! Our wonderful organist, George Cullinan, will be bidding us farewell sometime in late winter or early spring because his fiancé has taken a job in New Jersey. When George leaves will be determined by when their Bloomington house sells and when he finds work near their new home. I think that George's gifts as a musician and his qualities as a person have deepened music at St. David's in significant ways. I'm hoping that, even after he goes, the warmth, wit, and generosity he brought will stick around.

Pamela Smith, 323 1817

Funny Pages

The Catholic Way

Mitch, a hard-shell Southern Baptist, loved to sneak away to the race track. One day he was there betting on the ponies and nearly losing his shirt when he noticed a priest who stepped out onto the track and blessed the forehead of one of the horses lining up for the 4th race. Lo and behold, this horse - a very long shot - won the race.

Mitch was most interested to see what the priest did the next race. Sure enough, he watched the priest step out onto the track as the 5th race horses lined up, and placed this blessing on the forehead of one of the horses. Mitch made a beeline for the window and placed a small bet on the horse. Again, even though another long shot, the horse the priest had blessed won the race. Mitch collected his winning and anxiously waited to see which horse the priest bestowed his blessing on for the 6th race.

The priest showed, blessed a horse, Mitch bet on it, and it won! Mitch was elated! As the day went on, the priest continued blessing one of the horses, and it always came in first. Mitch began to pull in some serious money, and by the last race, he knew his wildest dreams were going to come true. He made a quick stop at the ATM, withdrew big money and awaited the priest's blessing that would tell him which horse to bet on.

True to his pattern, the priest stepped out onto the track before the last race and blessed the forehead, eyes, ears and hooves of one of the horses. Mitchell bet every cent, and watched the horse come in dead last. Mitchell was dumbfounded. He made his way to the track and when he found the priest, he demanded, "What happened, Father? All day you blessed horses and they won. The last race, you blessed a horse and he lost. Now I've lost my savings, thanks to you!!"

The priest nodded wisely and said, "That's the problem with you Protestants...you can't tell the difference between a simple blessing and the last Rites."

--from the Hubers

New Definitions

ADULT: A person who has stopped growing at both ends and is now growing in the middle.

BEAUTY PARLOR: A place where women curl up and dye.

CANNIBAL: Someone who is fed up with people.

CHICKENS: The only animals you eat before they are born and after they are dead.

COMMITTEE: A body that keeps minutes and wastes hours.

DUST: Mud with the juice squeezed out.

EGOTIST: Someone who is usually me-deep in conversation.

HANDKERCHIEF: Cold Storage.

INFLATION: Cutting money in half without damaging the paper.

MOSQUITO: An insect that makes you like flies better.

RAISIN: Grape with a sunburn.

SECRET: Something you tell to one person at a time.

SKELETON: A bunch of bones with the person scraped off.

TOOTHACHE: The pain that drives you to extraction.

TOMORROW: One of the greatest labor-saving devices of today.

YAWN: An honest opinion openly expressed.

WRINKLES: Something other people have. **I** have character lines.

--from Marilyn Day

Inspiration

"A Creed for the Discouraged"

by Virginia Opal Myers

I believe that God created me to be happy, to enjoy the blessings of life, to be useful to my fellow-beings, and an honor to my country

I believe that the trials which beset me today are but the fiery text by which my character is strengthened, ennobled and made worthy to enjoy the higher things of life, which I believe are in store for me.

I believe that my soul is too grand to be crushed by defeat: I will rise above it

I believe that I am the architect of my own fate; therefore,

I will be master of circumstances and surroundings, not their slave

I will not yield to discouragements, I will trample them underfoot and make them serve as stepping-stones to success. I will conquer my obstacles and turn them into opportunities

My failures of today will help to guide me on to victory on the morrow

The morrow will bring new strength, new hopes, new opportunities and new beginnings. I will be ready to meet it with a brave heart, a calm mind and an undaunted spirit

In all things I will do my best, and leave the rest to the Infinite

I will not waste my mental energies by useless worry, I will learn to dominate my restless thoughts and look on the bright side of things.

I will face the world bravely, I will not be a coward. I will assert my God-given birthright and be a man. For I am Immortal, and nothing can overcome me.

--from Jennifer Rekers

We all Need a Tree!

I hired a plumber to help me restore an old farmhouse, and after he had just finished a rough first day on the job: a flat tire made him lose an hour of work, his electric drill quit and his ancient one ton truck refused to start.

While I drove him home, he sat in stony silence. On arriving, he invited me in to meet his family. As we walked toward the front door, he paused briefly at a small tree, touching the tips of the branches with both hands.

When opening the door he underwent an amazing transformation. His face was wreathed in smiles and he hugged his two small children and gave his wife a kiss.

Afterward he walked me to the car. We passed the tree and my curiosity got the better of me. I asked him about what I had seen him do earlier.

"Oh, that's my trouble tree," he replied "I know I can't help having troubles on the job, but one thing's for sure, those troubles don't belong in the house with my wife and the children.. So I just hang them up on the tree every night when I come home and ask God to take care of them. Then in the morning I pick them up again." "Funny thing is," he smiled, "when I come out in the morning to pick 'em up, there aren't nearly as many as I remember hanging up the night before."

--from Marilyn Day

Pumpkin Pound Cake

1 box yellow cake mix
4 eggs
1/3 C. oil
3/4 C. sugar
1/4 C. water
1 small can pumpkin puree
1/4 tsp. nutmeg
1 Tbls. Cinnamon

Mix all ingredients. Bake in greased and floured Bundt pan for 40-45 minutes at 350°. I dust with powdered sugar mixed with cinnamon and nutmeg but the original recipe calls for a glaze made with 1 C. powdered sugar mixed with 1-2 Tbsp. milk. --from Jane Herr

Turkey Tetrazzini

Makes 8 servings

1 (10 oz) can cream of mushroom soup
2/3 cup milk
1 (16 oz) jar Alfredo sauce
3 1/2 cups chopped cooked turkey, chicken or ham
12 oz thin spaghetti, cooked
1 (10 oz) pkg. frozen peas, thawed
1 (8 ounce) pkg sliced fresh mushrooms
1 1/2 cups shredded mozzarella cheese
1 cup shredded Parmesan cheese, divided
1/2 cup crushed garlic-onion seasoned croutons
1/4 teaspoon paprika

WHISK together soup and milk in large mixing bowl; whisk in Alfredo sauce. Stir in chopped turkey, next 4 ingredients, and 1/2 cup Parmesan cheese. Pour into lightly greased 15x18 inch baking dish. STIR together remaining Parmesan cheese, crushed croutons and paprika. Sprinkle over casserole. BAKE covered at 375 for 30 minutes. Uncover and bake 15 more minutes or until golden brown and bubbly. Let stand 10 minutes before serving.

NOTE: Casserole may be assembled and frozen up to 1 month. Thaw in refrigerator overnight; bake at 350 for 40 minutes. Uncover and bake 15 more minutes. If you prefer smaller casserole, use two (11x7 inch) baking dishes—bake one and freeze the other for later. --from Judy Baughman

Update your Directory entry!

This is an ongoing project. Want a picture? Want the one you have changed? New addresses, new phone numbers, new e-mails, new parishioners--send me your info! Jane Herr (812)988-7611 or 4923 Stevens Road, Nashville, 47448 or (the preferred method!): jane@rjherr.com

Newsletter Submissions?

Please send your news items, stories of spiritual growth, book reviews, jokes, cartoons, recipes, etc. to Jane Herr (812)988-7611 or 4923 Stevens Rd., Nashville, 47448 or (the preferred method!): jane@rjherr.com. Next deadline for submissions: **Sunday, January 20, 2008 for Lent**

Birthdays and Anniversaries

NOVEMBER

2 Mary Rudd
9 Joan Amati
9 Judy Baughman
10 Joe & Sandy Ridenour - Anniversary
11 David Sindlinger
12 Cedar Martin (Laura Martin's daughter)
12 Jane Herr
13 Andrea Barber
13 Char Fitzgerald
19 Daniel Hutchison
20 Ralph & Maggie Linscott -Anniversary
21 Michael Smith -(Hazel Olive's grandson)
26 Patrick Hutchison
28 Carol Ruffin
30 Pat Bolinger

DECEMBER

1 Erin Fleser
4 Caleb Miller
4 Stephen Stouder
9 Ray & Judy Laffin _Anniversary
12 Donna Niednagel
16 Shelby Rimstidt (Dave & Karen Richards's granddaughter)
27 Jim & Jan Drum -Anniversary
28 Phyllis Sindlinger
29 Deborah Hutchison
29 Ben Hensel
30 Scott & Hazel Olive -Anniversary
30 Stephen & Donna Stouder -Anniversary
30 Mark Niednagel
30 John & Mickie Williams -Anniversary
31 Karen Richards

JANUARY

6 Jeff Stone
7 Cody Woods
9 Christine Beers
8 Abigail Folz
10 Kaitlin Richards (Dave & Karen Richards's granddaughter)
17 Dave Richards
18 Jan Drum
19 Natalie Stant
22 Andy Herr

FEBRUARY

2 Sarah Eads
 2 Eric Beers
 3 Rosemary Pedry
 4 Mike Day
 4 Eliot Smith
 4 Miranda Smith (Hassett) (Eliot & Pamela Smith's daughter)
 9 Tom Smith (Eliot & Pam Smith's son)
 10 Tom Hensel
 11 Randy Bridges
 11 Tom & Desiree Hensel - Anniversary
 14 Sue & Dan Wheeler -Anniversary
 15 Sandy Fittz
 22 Phyllis Bailey
 24 Shanna Smith (Hazel Olive's granddaughter)
 26 Kjestine Woods

Don't see your birthday or anniversary - drop me a line at jane@rjherr.com

Schedule of Special Services and Parish Events

Tuesday	Nov. 27	Yoga	5:30 PM	Parish Hall
		<i>--classes continue on Tuesdays</i>		
Friday	Nov. 30	Hutchison's perform	5 PM	Chateau Thomas
Sunday	Dec. 2	1st Sunday in Advent	9:30 AM	St. David's
Sunday	Dec. 2	house blessing at Linscott's	after service	625 Artist Dr.
Saturday	Dec. 8	St. Nicholas drama	4 PM	St. David's
Sunday	Dec. 16	Messiah Sing	5:30 PM	Methodist Church
Sunday	Dec. 23	Fourth Sunday in Advent	9:30 AM	St. David's
		<i>the greening of the Church follows the service</i>		
Monday	Dec. 24	Christmas Eve Festival Eucharist	7:00 PM	St. David's
Tuesday	Dec. 25	Nativity of Our Lord	10 AM	St. David's
Sunday	Jan. 20	Lenten newsletter deadline		
Sunday	Jan. 27	St. David's annual meeting	after service	St. David's
		<i>pitch-in to follow</i>		
Wednesday	Feb. 6	Ash Wednesday (<i>Lenten season begins</i>)		St. David's
		Prayer Service and Imposition of Ashes		7 AM
		Imposition of Ashes and Holy Communion		7 PM
Saturday	Feb. 9	Valentine making party	1-5 PM	Waycross