

# St. David's Newsletter

St. David's Episcopal Church - Englewood, Florida March, 2012

## **"New Friends" Program: Much More than just a "Friendly Hello!" —By The Rev. Eric S. Cooter**

The Welcome Team of St. David's has been doing a wonderful job of greeting and following up with the visitors ("New Friends") who have most recently been visiting St. David's. This new ministry's focus is to help the new folks who visit, find a welcome that authentically invites them into a deeper commitment to Jesus Christ through this community. The ministry's work begins with the smiling faces who at the door each Sunday, greets each new visitor. At the Welcome Desk, our greeter invites the visitor to fill out an information card, so that we can follow up with them after their first Sunday at St. David's. Greeters create temporary name tags for those without one, and records if they would like one. Next, during announcements, greeters provide "New Friends" with a small gift bag, including a copy of the St. David's Newsletter, the Southern Cross, a "Day by Day" reader, Fr. Eric's card, and a fresh backed mini-loaf of bread or cookies. This welcoming program was developed out of our 2010 study of the book, "Radical Welcome: Embracing God, the Other, and the Spirit of Transformation" by the Rev. Stephanie Spellers.

The ministry of "Radical Welcome" is not one merely a friendly hello, nor merely something in which, only the Welcome Team engages. Each one of us at St. David's has a role in the ministry of "Radical Welcome." How can we all participate? It's easy, simply keep an eye out during coffee hour for those folks carrying a gift bag. This is a wonderful opportunity for some of us who have the gift of hospitality, to go up to our "New Friends," introduce ourselves, welcome them to St. David's, and ask them, "where are

you from?" Sometimes, merely a friendly hello, a gesture of love, a greeting, or just a move to discover the other person's gifts, opens the door for a deeper connection. However, "Radical Welcome" does not end there, nor does the work of the Welcome Team end there either.

On Monday morning, Teresa Benson (Administrative Assistant) gathers up the cards and name tag requests left on Sunday morning, and she crafts welcome letters from Fr. Eric to each "New Friend," which are mailed out that day. In addition, Teresa inputs the "New Friends" information in the visitor tracking section of ACS (our membership database) and sends Joan Flower (Welcome Team Leader) and Fr. Eric the names of those new folks who were here last Sunday. We use this information tracking to help us follow up with our

visitors. Within a week, Joan and her team, make follow up calls to our "New Friends" to inquire about their visit. This call helps us get to know them better. This phone call is also an opportunity to setup a home visit from Fr. Eric.

So far, over the past several months we have had so many new folks visit St. David's, and through this program, we have had over 10 people either transfer their letter to St. David's or they have made a commitment to participate more deeply in the life of the community. If you feel God might be calling you to be a part of the "Welcome Team," I encourage you to prayerfully consider it. You will be blessed knowing that you are responding to Christ's commission to welcome the least, lost, lonely, and to embrace those who are seeking a deeper commitment to Our Lord Jesus Christ. For more information about serving on the Welcome Team, contact Joan Flower [j-jflower@verizon.net](mailto:j-jflower@verizon.net) or Fr. Eric [freric@stdavidsenglewood.org](mailto:freric@stdavidsenglewood.org)



**OUTREACH MINISTRY UPDATE** by Pat Knox

I can't believe how quickly February has flown by. Even though it was a short month it seems as if everyday we were blessed in one way or another.

Once again our **COLD NIGHT SHELTER** was opened two nights in a row. One of the problems we have found is that there are no buses running from Venice to Englewood on the weekend. There are at least four people who need a rides to the shelter and back to Venice on Sunday morning. If this is something you are comfortable doing, please let me know for the upcoming clod season. Notice, I am not expecting anymore cold weather.

Our **BACK PACK MINISTRY** is streamlined and running smoothly. We have a team who come early and unpack the pallets, sort, count and place the food on the assembling tables. Another team comes in and packs the bags and helps clean up. Final step is taking the food to the school. I am sorry to say we have lost a number of the families receiving help, due to the economy. Families have moved away from Englewood. This is serious as if this continues, we will remain a retirement community with no growth.

Our **FOOD PANTRY** is now open during the week when the office is open, plus Tuesday evenings from 5:00-7:00 and Saturday morning from 10:00-12:00. We are truly blessed as our pantries, (we supply Foursquare Church) are supplied by the generous donations from the community, plus the **FOOD DRIVES** that help keep our shelves stocked. Thanks to Boca Royale who sponsored a food drive at their Valentines Dance and to **HELP IN CHARLOTTE COUNTY**, who once a year bring

in two semi truckloads of food and household items from Feed The Children. This year we received 100 boxes of assorted items. On Sunday, March 18th from 9:00-3:00 St. David's will be at Publix at Merchants Crossings to receive donations of food and paper goods. If you are interested in donating a few hours for this worthy cause please call me at 276-6720.

Our **JUST NEIGHBORS MEETING** that meets the last Tuesday of the month continues to bring outstanding speakers that bring information regarding resources that everyone should know about. These resources can benefit each of us as well as the homeless and low-income families that we try to help. Our speaker for February from the crisis center for domestic abuse and rape shared a lot of information on how the numbers of abuse is on the rise and why women don't always seek the help they need. **Our speaker for March is Dr. Quigley who is the medical director at Tidewell in Venice.** I will be sharing some of my experiences and the choices I made with my husband Tom because I did not know my rights as to the tests and procedures that took place. People need to know you don't need the hospital to tell you your loved one should go to Hospice. Dr. Quigley will be there to share much needed information that effects all of us. Please make every effort to attend this worthwhile meeting.

Outreach Coordinator, Pat Knox



**Psalm 127:3-5 "Behold, children are a heritage from the Lord..."**

As a member of St. David's Episcopal Youth Group, I would like to tell you about what happened when we interviewed people of our church. When all the people came out of church hall and into the dining hall, we each

went up to a random person and started asking questions, like 'what is your favorite color, or animal or what is a song you listen to'. We each asked at least two people these questions. As we interviewed them, we started to make friends with people in the church. We made lots of new friends that Sunday. We had lots of fun doing this activity. We hope we can do this project again.

Chloe Browder



**We Welcome our New Friends:  
Fred & Marcia Weber**



Fred & Marcia Weber have been spending the winters in Englewood for the past 17 years,

attending a church in Port Charlotte. In the spring they return to Charlestown, R.I, where they have been a member of St. Andrew's Lutheran Church for over 25 years. During the summer they run a flag & gift shop in Charlestown. Now that they are spending more time in Englewood, they started looking at churches in the area for a church with a focus on outreach to the community. While reading the local newspaper, they kept seeing many ways in which St. David's practices "FAITH IN ACTION." As Father Eric said "they are THE REAL DEAL." The Weber's have been attending the 10am service regularly and are pleased to find so many friendly people, and so many volunteers. Marcia feels blessed to be a member of both the Pastoral Care Team & the Prayer Chain; Fred has not yet found his niche at St. David's. They enjoy boating & swimming & taking walks both here in Englewood and in Charlestown, R.I. Fred and Marcia have one son who lives in Daytona Beach. FL.

**Pastoral Care** There is a great team of people that visit Englewood Hospital and other health care facilities on a regular basis each week. They also write letters to those who are sick, recovering from illness, suffering a loss and just a plain "hello" from St. David's. We are fortunate to have a team of dedicated intercessors that pray for the family and friends of St. David's. There is also a team that arranges and delivers flowers from the altar to people celebrating or in need of cheering up. There is always room for more members in any of these ministries if you feel called to participate. Please contact Ellie Barnes, 474-7125 or the church office 474-3140.

**Parish Life Events  
St. Patrick's Day Dinner**

Don't miss one of the biggest events of the year! Thursday, March 15 at 5p.m. Come celebrate the land of Eire and join us for a meal of traditional corned beef and cabbage. Tickets are a \$12.00 donation and are available after each service on Sunday in the Parish Hall. Reservations can also be made through the church office by calling 941.474.3140 .

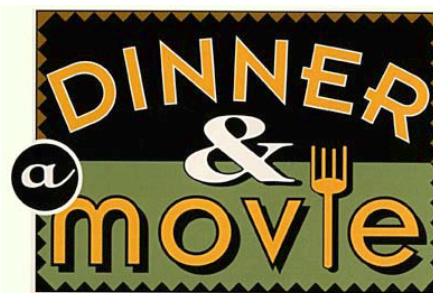


**Wine Basket Raffle**

Be sure to get your raffle ticket for a lovely wine basket that will be given away at the St Patty's Dinner March 15. Tickets available after each service in the Parish Hall for \$1 each or 6 for \$5. Even if you can't make it to the dinner, don't miss out on the basket!



**Dinner & a Movie**



Sit back and enjoy steak & peppers over noodles while watching the movie

"Rise of the Planet of the Apes" on Monday the 12th at 5pm . Tickets are a donation of \$5.

## A Morning of Meditation & Reflection

(The Spiritual Life) Morning of Meditation & Reflection will be held March 21 @ 9am This is a beautiful opportunity to participate in the Lenten season. Father Eric will lead this special day beginning with registration and refreshments at 8:30am. The program begins at 9am and ends with the Holy Eucharist at noonday.



## "Journeying with Jesus" Lenten Program



Please join us every Wednesday night February 29 to March 28th at 6:00 pm for Evening Prayer Service, Soup, and a Study of John Gooch's book, "Call Him Savior." The study will be led by Fr. Eric. Elementary and Middle School program available. High School youth are invited to join the adult program. **"Call Him Savior" By John Gooch available on Amazon.**

## Light a Virtual Prayer Candle *submitted by Adrienne Renick*

Did you know that you can light a Prayer Candle on line in the Prayer Chapel of The Forward Day By Day website? The Forward Movement website offers various forms of meditation. Travel to their home page ([www.forwardmovement.org](http://www.forwardmovement.org)) and you will see the Prayer Chapel link at the top of the page. In the Prayer Chapel you can submit a Prayer Request and/or Light a Prayer Candle and/or browse the Prayer Library. The Forward Staff will pray your request everyday for one week. And other people browsing the site will be praying for you too- just as you may find yourself moved to pray for someone else. The Prayer Candle is an exceptional way to settle in front of our Lord and just breathe. Peace be with you!



## Music Notes *by Don Baber*



We had a great trip to the Holy Lands and enjoyed every minute, except for the last two days, when almost everyone in the group came down with colds, coughs, and bronchitis. Lucy and I are still fighting bronchitis, and its not much fun! But we have wonderful memories of walking down the very lanes that our Lord Jesus walked, and we also went to the countries where St. Paul and other disciples walked in spreading the Christian message. In Rome, in addition to the usual sites, we went underground to the catacombs, where the early Christians worshiped God away from the prying eyes of the Romans and buried their Christian dead. But its good to be back in beautiful Florida and to return to making music for St. David's people.



## St. David's Thrift Shop, a ministry of St. David's ECW:

Do you have 2-3 hours a week with nothing to do? Or want a meaningful job? Can you be a volunteer at the Thrift Shop? Yes, you can!! Be a check-out person at the front desk, price donated items, be a consignment writer, be a bookkeeper, or put the donated or consignment items on racks or shelves. Check with Carol Bartlett, manager of the Thrift Shop, or sign-up on the bulletin board in the Parish Hall. **Open Monday to Friday, 9:30-4:00 and Saturday 9:30-12:00.**

**St. David's Food Pantry:** Beginning in March, we are extending our hours to Tuesday evenings and Saturdays. If you would like to serve in this ministry, please contact Pat Knox at [patknox0609@aol.com](mailto:patknox0609@aol.com).

## Lent & Holy Week Schedule



### 2012 Wednesday Lenten Worship Schedule

Mar 7 12:00 pm Holy Eucharist, 6:00 pm Evening Prayer, Soup & Study  
 Mar 14 12:00 pm Holy Eucharist, 6:00 pm Evening Prayer, Soup & Study  
 Mar 21 12:00 pm Holy Eucharist, 6:00 pm Evening Prayer, Soup & Study  
 Mar 28 12:00 pm Holy Eucharist, 6:00 pm Evening Prayer, Soup & Study

### 2012 Holy Week Schedule

Sun., Apr 1 8:00 am and 10:00 am **Palm Sunday** with procession  
 Mon., Apr 2 12:00 pm Stations of the Cross  
 Tue., Apr 3 12:00 pm Stations of the Cross  
 Wed., Apr 4 12:00 pm Stations of the Cross  
 Thurs., Apr 5 6:00 pm **Maundy Thursday**  
*(HC with foot washing; stripping of altar)*  
 Fri., Apr 6 12:00 pm **Good Friday** *(Communion from Res Sacrament)*  
 Sat., Apr 7 8:00 pm **The Great Vigil of Easter**  
 Sun., Apr 8 8:00 am and 10:00 am **Easter**

***The Feast of the Resurrection of Our Lord***



**UPDATE: St. David's Consignment and Thrift Shop A ministry of St. David's Episcopal Church Women (ECW)** In the operation of a thrift shop you will be faced with donations and expired consignments that don't fill a need in the normal outreach outlets. Our goal at St. David's Consignment and Thrift Shop is to establish as many possible outreach connections as necessary so that we just don't dispose of items. St. David's Thrift Shop is "Thinking Green"! The thrift shop over the years has developed a partnership with many unique outreach sources. As example of one item donated that often is a challenge for the thrift shop in this southern climate is wool clothing. This type of clothing may come from snowbirds, people moving down from the North, or local residents who keep some of this necessary clothing for

trips to family and friends in the North. Unfortunately, we have a limited call for this type of clothing in our shop or standard outreach. We have developed an outreach with a local cottage industry that makes wool braided rugs for income. Our call for pick up is much appreciated and an unwanted/unsellable item has not been disposed of. A donation is given to us from the proceed of sales in gratitude for our help and support. We offer further outreach to this individual by displaying pictures of the wool rugs currently for sale. We have established an outreach of ten plus years with a Crohn's patient, who in spite of her disease, has found it her mission to serve at area elderly facilities. Her visits to these facilities are most welcome as she entertains through songs and little gifts to patients. She welcomes song books and music tapes along with special small holiday items. Often patients are brought to our shop on a social outing with her. Lemon Bay Playhouse is often called when we have items suitable for props and clothing for their productions. This started years ago when they approached us in search of hard-to-find specialized items such as period clothing, hats and gloves. Now they are just a phone call away. Approximately every 2 weeks our Avon Lady comes calling! So many people are finding creative ways to deal with their financial situation in this area. She drops off a current catalog so volunteers and others may call in an order to her at their convenience. While orders are sometimes few and far between, our social and economic network to her has become a wonderful outreach.

**CPC Sunday, March 25th**

The Church Periodical Club is an Episcopal institution; its ministry is to supply books, magazines, tapes, videos and computer programs free to those who cannot otherwise obtain them and to raise the money to do this. It was founded in 1888 by Mary Ann Drake Fargo, wife of a member of the Wells-Fargo Express firm. Mary Ann and her friends in the Church of the Holy Communion, New York, sent their bundles of books and periodicals westward to missionaries and pioneers via stagecoach. There are two primary granting funds. The National Books Fund grants annually and responds to requests for books and related materials around the world. The Miles of Pennies fund is exclusively used for the book needs of children; grants are made year round.. On Sunday, March 25th, you will find a CPC giving envelope in your bulletin to use that day, if you would like to give towards this wonderful ministry.



**March Birthdays**

Schwable, Hosanna	
Nelson, Emert	3/3
Nicholas, Hazel	3/3
Kostka-Toolin, Pauline	3/4
Connor, Jared	3/6
Knox, Thomas (Tom)	3/7
Siggins, Patricia (Pat)	3/10
Maurer, John	3/12
Pfau, Ann	3/12
Welch, Thomas (Tom)	3/13
Atwell, Paula	3/18
Leonard III, Elizabeth (Betty)	3/20
Viele, Rena	3/21
Mesar, Robin	3/23
Silliman, Norman (Norm)	3/25
Hahn, Pamela (Pam)	3/26
Boger, Victoria (Vickie)	3/26
Dumas, Joan	3/30

**March Anniversaries**

Mary & Alan Archer	03/21
Florence & Thomas Welch	03/29

**American Cancer Society's Relay for Life** Grace Gilbert is forming a St. David's team to support "Relay for Life" to be held March 31, 2012 at Lemon Bay High School This special event is designed to support cancer research. Please consider joining this newly formed ministry and help St. David's support the American Cancer Society. For more information, please contact Grace at 941/475-2120.



**DECOLORES!** By Karen Maurer  
Lunch Bunch group meets on the 2nd & 4th Tuesdays from 12:00-1:00 p.m. in the Choir Room.

**Welcome Team: Bakers and Bread Makers**

We would like to use your talents for the Welcome Team Ministry. Anyone interested in making sugar cookies or mini loaves of bread to be given to newcomers to St. David's please contact Joan Flower @ 468-0184



**Bishop Visitation, Confirmations, and Renewals:**  
The Diocesan-wide Confirmation will be held at St. Peter's Cathedral on April 4th at 11:00 am. If interested, please contact the church office at 941.474.3140.



**AARP Free Tax Service** – Rotonda West Community Church in Rotonda West is offering **Free** tax service this tax season. This service is available Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday from 9AM to 1PM. If you have any questions, Rotonda West Community Church asks that you contact Tom Johnson at 941-740-1377.



**Youth Sweet Shop**

**Sunday, March 18<sup>th</sup>,** the youth will be selling sweets after service in the Parish Hall for \$5 a tin to raise money for their activities. Please stop by and get a tasty treat while supporting this ministry.



# March 2012



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
 <p><b>COMING IN APRIL:</b> Don't miss the 50s Pizza Party, Mon., April 23rd at 5p.m.! Dinner &amp; a Movie: Monday, April 9th</p>				1 9:00 Quilting Circle  1:30 Parish Life Mtg.	2 Fr. Eric's Day Off	3
4 <b>BREAKFAST BUFFET</b> 8am Holy Com RI 9:10am Christian Formation Com Head Mtg 10 am Holy Com RII 10 am Sun Sch	5	6 9:30am ECW Board Mtg  10:30am Faith & Fellowship	7 12pm Holy Eucharist 1pm Knitting 1pm Back Pack 2:30 pm Finc & Bdg 6pm Youth, 6pm Bell Choir 6pm Lenten Soup & Study 7pm Choir	8 9:00 Quilting Circle	9 Fr. Eric's Day Off	10
11 8am Holy Com RI <b>9:10am Worship Com Head Mtg</b> 10 am Holy Com RII 10 am Sun Sch &Nursery	12 2:00 Grief Support  <b>5:00 pm Dinner &amp; Movie</b>	13 10:30am Faith & Fellowship 12:00 Lunch Bunch 2pm Thrift Shop Stndg Com Mtg	14 9:30am Prayer Ch 12 pm Noon Day Eucharist 1pm Knitting <b>1pm Thrift Shop Luncheon</b> 6pm Lenten Sp Stdy 7pm Choir	15 9am Quilting Circle 10:00 am DOK <b>5pm St. Patty's Day Dinner</b> 6:30 p.m. Vestry	16 Fr. Eric's Day Off  9 am Living the Questions	17 St Patrick's Day  
18 8am Hly Com RI <b>9:10am Parish Life Com Head Mtg</b> 10 am Holy Com RII 10 am Sun Sch &Nursery <b>Youth Sweet Shop Sale FOOD DRIVE</b>	19 10:00am SunShine Quilt Guild 10:30am Faith & Fellowship 10:30am Exec Team 1p.m. Christian Formation Team Mtg	20 10:30am Faith & Fellowship 10am Sunshine Quilters 4:30pm Property Task Force	21 <b>9am DOK (The Spiritual Life) Morning of Meditation &amp; Reflection</b> 12pm Noon Day 1pm Knitting 6pm Youth 6pm Lenten Sp Stdy 7pm Choir	22 9am Quilting Circle	23 Fr. Eric's Day Off	24 <b>11am Memorial Service - Marion Dreher</b>  5pm Free Neighborhood
25 <b>CPC Sunday</b> 8am Holy Com RI <b>9:10am Mission &amp; Ministry Com Head Mtg</b> 10 am Holy Com RII 10 am Sun Sch &Nursery	26 2:00 Grief Support	27 10:30 Faith & Fellowship 12 Lunch Bunch <b>6 pm Just Neighbors</b>	28 12pm Noon Day 1pm Knitting 1pm Backpack Ministry 6pm Lenten Sp Stdy 7pm Choir	29 9am Quilting Circle	30 Fr. Eric's Day Off  9am Living the Questions	31 <b>1p.m. Relay for Life</b>



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**March 2012 Newsletter**

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**OFFICE HOURS**

Open—MONDAY -FRIDAY

9:00 AM — 3:00PM

Fr. Eric's Day off—Friday



**SERVICE SCHEDULE:**

Sunday: 8:00 AM Holy Eucharist Rite I;

9:10 AM Adult Christian Education,

10:00 AM Holy Eucharist Rite II;

10:00 AM Youth Sunday School & Nursery

Wednesday Noon Holy Eucharist/ Prayer

Check out Father Eric's blog at: <http://fragilecontainers.blogspot.com>



3/4—Breakfast Buffet

3/12 Mon., 5p.m.—

Dinner & a Movie

3/15—Dinner & a Movie

3/18—Food Drive

3/18—Youth Sweet Shop Fundraiser

3/21—Morning of Meditation & Reflection

3/24 Sat., 11a.m.—Memorial for Marion Dreher

3/25—CPC Sunday

3/27—Just Neighbors

3/31—Relay for Life

Grief Support: 2nd and 4th Mondays, at 2p.m. Grief Support meets in the Quiet Room.

Faith & Fellowship: Tuesdays weekly at 10:30a.m. in the conference room.

Lunch Bunch: 2nd & 4th Tuesday, at 12:00 Noon., in the Parish Hall.

Noon Day Eucharist: Wednesdays, weekly at noon in the knave.

Knitting: Wednesdays weekly at 1p.m. in the conference room.

Youth Group: Wednesdays weekly. 6-7:00p.m.

Elementary Age (Juniors), 7-8p.m. High School (Seniors)

Small Group: 1st and 3rd Wednesdays, in the Parish Hall.

Quilting: Thursdays weekly, 9a.m. in the Parish Hall.

Living the Questions: 9a.m., 2nd & last Friday of each month, in the Parish Hall.

**AA & 12 STEP MEETINGS AT ST. DAVID'S**

Sundays 8:00 pm Next Generation Group

Mondays 10:00 am Al-Anon

7:30 pm Women's Group (W.I.N.G.S.)

Tuesdays 7:00 pm Step & Tradition Group

Wednesdays 10:00 am Women's Big Book Study Group, 6:00 pm ACOA, 8:00 pm Serenity Group

Fridays 5:00 pm "Wad'ya Mean By That" Group

8:00 pm Al-Anon Group & Al-ATeen Group

8:00 pm Gratitude Group

Saturdays 9:00 am Men's Al-Anon Group, 8:00 pm Big Book, 11:00 pm Men's AA