

## St. David's Episcopal Church

**Rev. Harry Abernathy, Cluster Missioner**  
**John Beranek, Senior Warden**  
**David Adams, Junior Warden**

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St. David's Episcopal Church is a member of the Sandhills Episcopal Cluster of Churches  
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### Message from the Missioner

Last year at the diocesan convention, Bishop Michael Curry used the image of New Testament Galilee - as in Jesus "has been raised from the dead, and....is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him (Matthew 28:7)" - as a metaphor for understanding the Church's mission in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

The conversation continued at this year's convention (Jan 20-21 in Winston-Salem) with the theme of "Welcome to Galilee" - and a dynamic address by Bishop Curry, followed later in the day by a question-and-answer session with the Presiding Bishop of the Episcopal Church, Katharine Jefferts-Schori. The Presiding Bishop also preached at the Eucharist Thursday night, and addressed the convention on Saturday morning, elaborating on some of the themes Bishop Curry had raised in his address.

The Church, Bishop Curry said, must go to the world, must follow Jesus to Galilee - and not wait for the world to come to the church. The world in which the church is called to minister in the 21<sup>st</sup> century is different from the world in which most of us grew up. And old paradigms are changing. And *we must change* if we are to be faithful to our calling as disciples of Jesus. Here are some of the major points that came out of the Bishop's address:

- The economics of Galilee mean changes for our parishes. The traditional model of a parish with a full-time priest, with part-time support staff (organist, secretary and cleaning service), and the costs of building upkeep, supplies, youth and education programs now costs about \$300,000 a year, and requires 200 pledging units to comfortably sustain. Of the 118 congregations in the diocese, only 24 have a membership of 200 or more.
- In part to address that, the diocese is working to dramatically increase the ministry of deacons - who serve where the Bishop assigns them, and almost always without compensation. Deacons, Bishop Curry said, are not to "serve in the sacristy, but on the street...The ministry of a deacon is not to serve the Church, but to help the Church serve the world in Jesus' name." There are now 3 deacon interns, and 10 deacon candidates in the pipeline.

- Each congregation found a surprise on their tables: a brochure with a real \$100 bill attached. This was to pay for an initial Galilee ministry project. We were encouraged to use our imaginations, to dream big about how we might offer a "Galilee ministry" in our own setting with \$100. We know Jesus went to where the people were. Today, people are found at shopping malls, sporting events, bars and restaurants, museums, parks, farmers' markets, thrift stores - and many more such places. Some suggestions included: giving away bottles of water with the church's name visible, buying someone a cup of coffee or a beer at a local establishment and engaging them in conversation, or giving out snacks at a bus or train station, or taking a booth at a community fair or similar event.
- The Bishop invited us to join him in an on-line book study during the Easter season - a six-week study of a soon-to-be-published book by Diana Butler Bass entitled *Christianity After Religion: The End of Church and the Birth of a New Spiritual Awakening*. Dr. Butler Bass will lead the study online, sharing her insights into this mission moment. She will also speak in person at three events in the diocese during this time. The book is to be published in February, and the study will take place from April 8 - May 20. Bass will visit the diocese May 17-20.

Rather than simply being a place where the routine business of the diocese was conducted in rote fashion, this year's convention (my first in this diocese) provided us with energy, vision, and resources so that we can continue our ministries with renewed vigor and purpose. Welcome to Galilee!

Father Harry Abernathy

### Words from the Senior Warden

Epiphany is upon us. Each week in the lessons we learn more about Jesus' ministry and how he expresses his Divinity while walking among us as one of us. Light is mentioned many times in the lessons as in seeing the light or shedding light in darkness. The hope is that we increasingly

(Continued on Page 2)

## Words from the Senior Warden

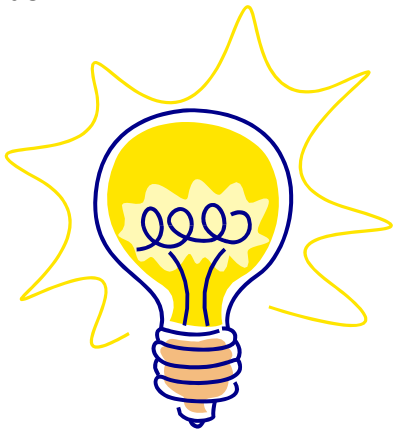
understand what God is telling us about Himself and His relationship to us as more "light" shines forth.

Let us pray:

*Almighty God, whose Son our Savior Jesus Christ is the light of the world: Grant that your people, illumined by your Word and Sacraments, may shine with the radiance of Christ's glory, that he may be known, worshipped, and obeyed to the ends of the earth.... Amen.*

Book of Common Prayer p. 215

John Beranek  
Senior Warden



## Thank You

Gary and Martha Tremblay for doing altar in January  
Everyone who helped un-decorate the church after Christmas  
Kyle Bethel and Bonnie Glenn for serving as our convention delegates  
David Adams who selected our New Year's Day Hike location  
Mary Jo and David Adams for hosting our New Year's Day Supper

## Monthly Potluck

Everyone is invited to join us at 6pm on February 8 for our monthly parish potluck. The theme this time is a Chili Cook-off (with accompaniments). A sign-up sheet will be at the back of the church, so we can have our chili contestants and others can bring the support condiments.

Carolyn Beranek

## Chinese Auction

Chinese Auction is a fun way to get rid of Christmas gifts that you don't like, or want, or don't fit. Bring plenty of change to make bids. We will share a potluck and then get to the auction business. The catch to this type of auction is that when you bid,

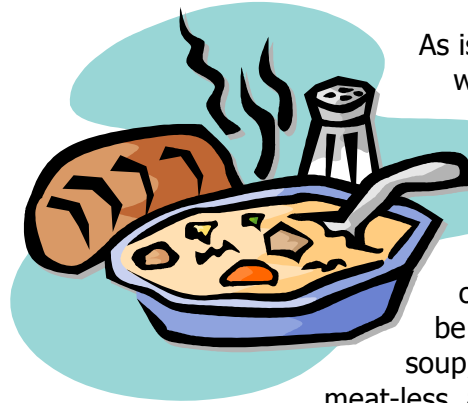
you toss your coins. It's a fun evening and will go for a good cause. We will take the proceeds and use them for a project that we will vote on that evening, any ideas?

Carolyn Beranek

## Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper

The Diocese of NC Convention is coming up in January. Please keep our Convention Delegates, Kyle Bethel and Bonnie Glenn in your prayers.

## Lenten Programs



As is our tradition, we will have Wednesday night soup and bread suppers on the Wednesdays of Lent. There will be a sign-up sheet for soup, meat-full and meat-less, and bread, and

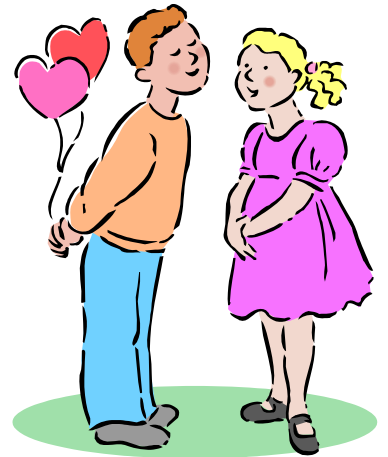
drinks.

Please check it out and sign up for a couple of nights. There will be a short program and a short worship service following supper.

Carolyn Beranek

## February Anniversaries

February 9 Domingo Sanchez and Marilyn Petersen  
February 18 Hugh and Pat Colston



## February Birthdays

February 3 Brad Bethel  
February 14 Ilene Hayes  
February 17 Ellie Cook  
February 18 Ann Colston  
February 20 Michelle Moore



## Musings from the Pew

In May of 1960 one of my aunts decided that nothing would do but I should become a nuclear physicist. She would pay for my education if only I would become a nuclear physicist. She was capable of paying for my education – let's put that out of the way.

There were a few things that stood in the way of her plan. For one thing my father considered the whole thing a massive blow to his manhood from a woman he could scarcely stand. For another one condition of her plan was I have my grades shipped to her semester by semester rather than to my parents. Then there was the minor matter that I disliked her rather intensely and had rather have had a root canal than have been beholden to her for the rest of my life.

Probably, though, the most important thing was neither of us had the foggiest notion what it was exactly that a nuclear physicist actually did. She simply liked the sound of saying, "My nephew is a nuclear physicist." To both of us a nuclear physicist was sort of like a canon to the ordinary in a diocese of fewer than 50,000 people. It's a nice title but what does he actually do? Dust light bulbs?

And that, boys and girls, is how I missed out on becoming a Nobel laureate.

Actually I don't think I would have made a particularly good nuclear physicist and the world is a safer place because I chose the dusty libraries of the history teacher for my life's work. I do, however, think I would have made a dandy quantum physicist. I'm too old for that now (and the world's probably a better place for it) but there is something about quantum physics that fascinates me. The whole idea of dealing with little particles that don't go where nature and logic say they should go – well, that's the human condition, isn't it? OK, I've oversimplified.

But the truth of the matter is when Jesus compared us to the sheep of his pasture he was telling us something that we of a non-pastoral society have long since forgotten. Sheep don't go where they are told. Sheep don't stay together. We didn't breed sheepdogs because shepherds wanted non-bahhing company on long winter evenings. We bred them because if sheep go the way you want them to go, you guessed right.

It takes a few dogs and the smacking of a shepherd's crook to keep sheep from disaster. Sheep are much like the little quarks or whatever the quantum physicists call the little doohickeys they watch in their labs.

And we are much like the sheep. And we are inclined to run astray, wander from the flock, go into the woods and get caught up in the briars and the thorns. Then our bleating attracts all the natural enemies of mankind – predatory lenders, unemployment, foreclosures, high oil prices and all the other things we hear about in election years never to be mentioned for another four years.

It's then that we need a shepherd to rescue us from our mistakes. It's seldom a politician. Remember that in 2012.

Jim Jordan



## Congratulations

Congratulations to Kevin and Erica Moore upon the birth of their son River Moore, born January 18th.

Congratulations to first-time Grandmother, Michelle Moore and Great-Grandmother, Mary Welty.



## Condolences

Condolences to Jan Soles who lost her cat, Dew after a paralyzing fall.

*"May Light perpetual shine upon him."* BCP

## Episcopal Church Trivia

In 2010, 1.95 million people belonged to the Episcopal Church in the United States, making it the 14<sup>th</sup> largest denomination in the nation.

## Lunatic Society Meeting

The Lunatic Society will meet on February 18, at 6pm in the Parish Hall. The theme for the evening is "Asian Night." Please bring at least a story, a song, a dish to share, or a friend!





**DISCLAIMER:** The views expressed in these newsletter articles are those of the author only.

### Calendar of Events

- 02/01/12 Hand Bell Choir Practice, 6:30pm  
Choral Choir Practice, 7pm
- 02/02/12 Groundhog Day
- 02/05/12 Morning Prayer, 8am  
Christian Education, 10am  
Holy Eucharist Rite II, 11am  
Super Bowl XLVI, 6pm
- 02/07/12 Compline, 7:30pm
- 02/08/12 Chili Cook Off, 6pm
- 02/11/12 Chinese Auction @ Fidler's Home, 6pm
- 02/12/12 Men's Breakfast @ Lady Bug Family Restaurant, 8:30am  
Christian Education, 10am  
Holy Eucharist Rite II, 11am
- 02/14/12 Valentine's Day  
Vestry, 6:30pm  
Compline, 7:30pm
- 02/15/12 Hand Bell Choir Practice, 6:30pm  
Choral Choir Practice, 7pm
- 02/18/12 Lunatic Society Meeting, 6pm
- 02/19/12 Christian Education, 10am  
Holy Eucharist Rite I, 11am  
Cluster Council Meeting @ St. David's, Laurinburg, NC, 2:30pm
- 02/20/12 Presidents' Day
- 02/21/12 Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper, 5pm-7pm
- 02/22/12 Ash Wednesday Service, 7:30pm
- 02/26/12 Lent I  
Christian Education, 10am  
Holy Eucharist Rite I, 11am
- 02/28/12 Compline, 7:30pm
- 02/29/12 Leap Day  
Soup and Bread Supper and Lenten Program, 6pm



### Contributions for The Cornerstone

The Cornerstone deadline is the 19<sup>th</sup> of each month. All articles are invited. Please email articles to bonami12@bellsouth.net. The Cornerstone Editor is Bonnie Glenn.

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We're on the Web!  
<http://www.stdavidsepiscopal.org>  
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