

# The Crossings

Saint David of Wales Episcopal Church

Sept 2010

## FAMILY MATTERS by Judy Ogden, Senior Warden

What a great turnout for our picnic at Ann Olli's farm! One of the things I've always loved about farms is their smell and mid summer is an especially redolent season. Movement isn't necessary as the variety of scents waft around you and yet they come with a beckoning that invites following and exploration. The presence of the Holy Spirit, the Sustainer, can be experienced in much the same way; a pleasant, memorable aroma inviting one closer. Moving closer involves a measure of trust, curiosity and just enough boldness to be rewarded by breathtaking moments.

A farm is also a good analogy for a church family. It requires diversity. Six chickens in the backyard does not make a farm - urban or otherwise. But diversity necessitates boundaries and a good measure of peacekeeping. All do their part and all are necessary. There are growth times, times of loss, times full of energy and hard work and times of rest and healing. The good farmer knows these things and watches for the changes of season and weather. Think back on this last year at St. David of Wales and you will see the same patterns - patterns and rhythms lovingly created to guide us in all we are and do. Rejoice and give thanks!

In the doing and thanking departments there is much to report. We have our new computer and the new program and have begun to input information. In order to best use this wonderful tool someone needed to be fully trained. Betti Haskins volunteered and then the Diocese of Olympia offered to pay her tuition. This is an incredibly large and wonderful blessing! The Vestry has filed plans with the City of Shelton to construct a fence between the back of the parish hall and our neighbor's yard. This is a long overdue project and the work will begin as soon as we have the approval needed. The Vestry also voted to move the church office back into the church building and have workable plans to remodel the area that is now Heavenly Gifts, AKA the fireplace room. The gift shop will move to the other end of Echols Hall in what has been an office in the past. We couldn't easily move the office back into that space because of wiring needs. All of our computers, printers etc. will necessitate some electrical work and the expense of a complicated spider web of wiring can be avoided by using a space with an electrical box just a few feet away.

This space is also large enough to become two offices so that, in the future, one of them will be the rector's office. This will be a BIG project and, just like on the farm, everyone will need to "pitch" in and help make it happen.

(I was reeeceally tempted to say something about mooving ahead but I realize that one can only take a metaphor so far before it starts to smell . . . ) mea culpa....jo

## **Stewardship Program Under Way** by Andrew Beélik, Stewardship chair.

What? In the middle of summer? Well might you wonder! The pattern of recent years was: a dragging start in late October, a pause for Christmas, and then a frantic wrap-up in January. Early this August a letter reached all current members of St. David and a smaller number of former members who withdrew in recent years, a letter announcing an expanded Stewardship program. This is a first step in moving to a year-round program. Stewardship, after all, should be an attitude for everyday.

To refresh our understanding: a steward is one who manages someone else's possession. As Christians we manage God's possession: our being, our life, our skills, our assets. How come? Didn't we acquire our skills, our assets, our standing in the community by our own efforts and dedication? Are we not in sole possession of these? Not really. God created the world and us in it. He gave us innate capacities, guided us in their application throughout life, and surrounds us with his grace every day. Above all, in Jesus Christ's sacrificial death on the cross, God redeemed us. So, the least we can do is to offer up part of our time, talent and assets for God's purposes. That is our stewardship. This happens in response to our inner conviction; we are acting out our Christian faith. Our stewardship should not merely be a response to the church budget, but inevitably, it will have a direct effect on St. David's ability to rise up from the current crisis.

The program began with a series of "cottage meetings" in homes. No one attended the first one on August 11, publicity was slow reaching parishioners. On later evenings five of us met at Beélik's and seven at Haskins'. We talked to God in prayer; we talked with each other about stewardship, focusing on the time and talents aspects. We will turn to the stewardship of money in the fall. We also talked about being Episcopalians, and why it mattered to us. In a relaxed give and take we came to know each other much better. A strong commitment was expressed by all to make extra efforts to see St. David through this difficult transition. Several parishioners are signed up for the remaining two meetings at the end of August. For all others a final opportunity is offered on Wednesday, September 15 at 7 pm at the home of the Beélik's. Please let Andrew know if you plan to attend. (Phone: 426-6262, or e-mail: [abeelik@reachone.com](mailto:abeelik@reachone.com)).

Those who were unable to participate in the meetings, will be offered a chance to have the same discussions with fellow parishioners in individual visits. We believe it is crucial that all of us enter into this process, affirming and strengthening our stewardship. Then, with God's help, we will be able to revitalize St. David.

## Dinner/Dance/Auction to benefit the Cold Weather Shelter

**Date:** October 23      **Time:** Doors open at 6:00, dinner at 6:30  
**Ticket price:** \$40 or 2 for \$75 (Tickets on sale beginning Sept. 10)  
**Place:** 601 West C Street, St. Edward's Church hall

**Menu**      Squash soup      Salad  
                Prime Rib      Baked potato  
                Crusty roll      Dessert      Coffee/tea

Plan to feed 175: 100 paying guests, 30 band members, 45 workers

**Music** by Swing Fever  
8:00 to 11:00 with intermission

**Auction**—Items pledged to date, Aug. 31 :

2 nights for 2 in a water view room at Manresa Castle, Pt. Townsend  
Cord of firewood (this isn't firm as yet but is a "most likely")  
5 tanning sessions      Dinner for 2 at Vern's      2 tee shirts  
1 hour massage      2 baby blankets      Oil painting  
Gift basket from Shepherd's Soaps      Scenic flight  
Floral arrangement from Lynch Creek      Dinner for 2 at Xinh's  
2 professional photographs (subject matter unknown as yet)  
2 dance lessons of your choice (interpretive, tap, ballet, ballroom, etc.)  
A day's fishing trip or boat ride  
Dinner for 4 cooked by Jeff Sells  
Dinner for 6 cooked by Barb Weza

Have inquired about a week for two in a condo on Maui, a daylong bird watching expedition, a day's fishing trip or boat ride, a scenic flight, and am going to see about some lessons on Kenyan cooking. Will add such as can be obtained.

**People needed to:** Decorate      Set up (youth from St. Ed's or SHS)  
Take tickets      Serve (youth from St. Ed's or SHS)      Supervise auction  
Act as mc  
Rearrange tables prior to dance (youth from St. Ed's or SHS)  
Clean up (youth from St. Ed's or SHS plus adults)  
Cook (Jeff's domain although we can get youth to help with prep)

There will be sign-up sheets for helpers on the table at the back of the church..

### **Suggested donations:**

\$80 for poster printing      Prime rib      Salad "fixings"  
Money for all or part of the following: Crusty rolls      Dessert  
Soup ingredients      Misc. expenses (probably around \$25)

To volunteer or donate, please call Ann Baker at 432-1678

## **The Get Going Team**

The Get Going Team met with the Rev. Canon Joan Anthony to discuss the next step in the process of selecting our next rector. We will use all the positive information we gathered last summer and add it to the results of the Stewardship meeting taking place now to begin our Parish Profile. We should be ready to share all this with the congregation sometime in October.

We have the new computer up and running in the office in Echol's hall and the audit committee and the finance committee are working there now. Architect Grant Foster is completing the drawings for remodeling the gift shop space into two offices, one for our new rector and the other the church office. The Church Windows accounting program should be in use by the end of September. This will make keeping track of our money with all the various fund balances at our finger tips. Financial reports will be available to the vestry as often as needed.

Anyone is welcome to come join the team, either as a regular member or to promote one idea or project.. Meetings are held the 2nd Monday of each month at 8:30 a.m. and the 4th Monday at 3:00 p.m. in the back of the church.

## **ST. DAVID'S FAMOUS RUMMAGE AND BAKE SALE!**

Our famous annual 'Rummage and Bake Sale' is happening September 17th and 18th in the Parish Hall! Once again it is time to round up all the great stuff that needs a second life someplace else. Our popular sale of baked items will also occupy it's usual spot next to the kitchen.

The sale will run from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. both Friday and Saturday with half-off all rummage due to start at noon on Saturday. A double feature for Saturday shoppers will be the "Shelton Farmer's Market" running during the same time outside in front of the Parish hall.

Rummage sale items can be brought into the Parish Hall starting Tuesday, September 14 during open office hours. Bake sale items can start coming in on Thursday, September 16.

Jane Brown would appreciate your delicious contributions to the Bake Sale portion of the event. Dorothy Calleja and Elinor Lindquist need help with the set-up starting Monday, September 13, and continuing through the week as well as the sale days and the all important clean-up. Sign-up sheets for these tasks will be on the table at the back of the church.

This is a fun event and participation in it is another great non-monetary way to contribute to the life of St. David's. The financial proceeds become a major source of income for the General Fund.

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## **Roof Loan**

The roof on our church building, which we replaced in 2006 with a loan from the Diocese is more than half paid. We started in November 2006 with a balance of \$97,000. A capital fund drive and the continued generosity of our membership has reduced the balance to \$38,780.87 in just short of four years. Thank you to all who made this happen.

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## **Spanish Classes to begin in September**

Spanish classes will begin on Wednesday, September 8, 2010. The continuing class will meet from 4:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. and the beginning class starts at 5:35 p.m. and ends at 7:35 p.m. The sessions last for 10 weeks. The fee for the class is \$85.00. Call Carolyn Carlton for more information, 427-5460.

# The Council of Nicaea is over!

The Nicene Creed is the result. And those Easterners had lots more to do with the results than the Westerners!

*Nicaea-325 Ano Dominae-*

Breaking News! Although all 1800 bishops of the church, both Eastern and Western, were invited, only a total of 220 or so arrived. Eastern Church Bishops predominated and dominated. In spite of all the arguing and disagreement, ultimately Arius and the rest of the heretics were outvoted!

Arius loses his arguments about the nature of Jesus. The Eastern Church is successful!

Of course, Athanasius, a mere deacon at the time, had to get his version of the creedal statement included in the proceedings. It is, after all, the most lengthy. But this new creed—they probably will call it the Nicæan Creed—spends a lot of words on the nature of Jesus and his relationship to the Father. Arius had strong disagreements about what it says, in contrast to his own work, which, of course, he totally gets wrong (some would say)! Some 22 of the bishops at the council, led by Eusebius of Nicomedia, came as supporters of Arius. But when some of the more shocking passages from his writings were read out loud, they were almost universally seen as blasphemous. He lost ground in his fight to get his views of Jesus' nature included (more on this in a later article, explaining all things creedal).

It is clear, though, that the real difficulty in the council proceedings was how we look at Jesus. Is he part of God, from the beginning and before the beginning? Is he just an adopted part, really a newcomer along with the Spirit? How shall we understand him? Now, because Constantine was tired of the bickering between bishops and put his foot down demanding an end to the argumentative behaviors of Arius, we have an agreement. Both the Easterners and the Westerners “sort of” agree with the compromise statement. It was composed by the Eastern Church Bishops, and after a month of meeting (including discussion of other topics) an agreement was struck.

Because the real issue at the council was the nature of Jesus, the center part of the creed we will use is a lot longer than the other two parts. Some said that it emphasizes the nature of Jesus more than it should. “What about the Father and the Spirit? Aren't they important?” asked an unidentified bishop.

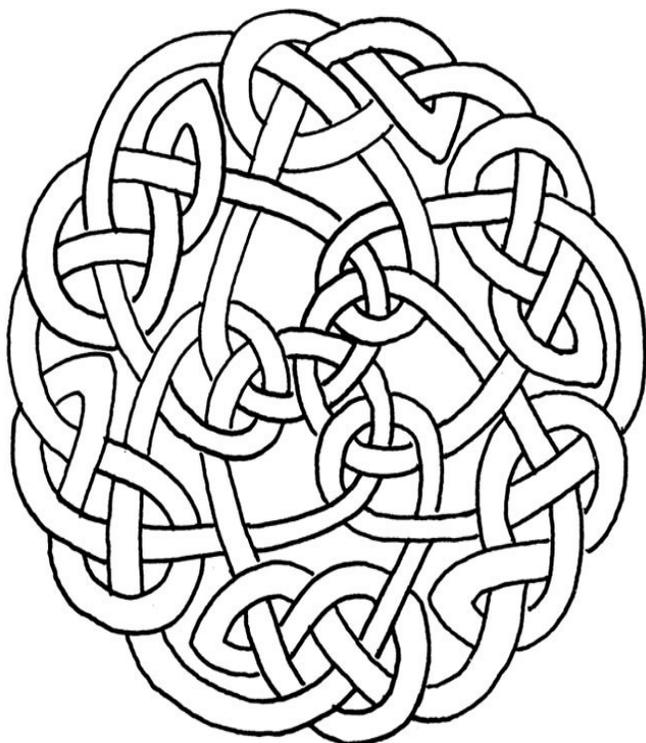
However those questions get answered will have to wait to the future. As for now, We believe in one God...

By Jeff Sells

## Help needed!

Due to changing schedules a volunteer is needed in the church office on Tuesdays, from noon to 2 p.m. If you can help out for two hours a week, see or call Patti Sells to get the details of the job.

The Audit committee has found that we need an inventory of our buildings, furnishings, permanent fixtures and other items, such as books (etc. Hymnals) and materials, and anything else we might find. We need people to work in pairs to document all we have, one room at a time. If we have many hands the job will be that much easier. If you are willing to take on a portion of this task call Marcie McKaig, 426-1933 to sign up. St. David's Photo Club will be documenting our church in pictures. Especially the furnishings and stained glass windows. The photo club meets the 3rd Thursday of each month at 7 p.m. in the EFM room. Please join us.



## Southwest Native American Gift Show



**November 17, Wednesday  
10 AM to 6:00 PM**

**St. David's Episcopal Church**

324 W Cedar St, Shelton, WA

From our friends at the  
**Southwest Connection**, Santa Fe, NM

*It's our annual fundraiser with hundreds of  
items to select from!*

Many thanks to the Saint David's parish family for all your prayers, cards, good wishes and help after my stroke at the beginning of August. Yesterday's appointment with the attending neurologist brought the beautiful news that it was not the sort that is expected to recur, and I am recovering well. Blessings to you all.

Fr. Don Maddux

# St. David of Wales Episcopal Church

## Meeting of the Vestry

August 11, 2010, 5:30 p.m.

### Attending Vestry Members

Judy Ogden, Senior Warden  
Bill Schaal, Junior Warden  
Jef Conklin  
Betti Haskins  
Marcie McKaig  
Carolyn Carlton

### Guests

Andrew & Shirley Beelik  
Doris Schaal  
Barb Weza  
Doug Haskins  
Elinor Lindquist

### Absent

Rosemary Dawson

Judy read an article from the Trinity Church,, Wall Street, New York newsletter.

### Financial Report

Jef reported that the bills were paid yesterday. Bills are being tracked but not posted until the new program is up and running. We are current on our 50% assessment. He has requested the balance owing on the roof repair from the diocese.

### Audit

The audit is progressing but will not be finished by September 1. Laurie McClanahan has contributed much knowledge to the process.

### Church Windows (computer software)

Betti has entered about 80 families so far and needs the pledge list for this year. The cost for Betti's training on this program costs \$510, which is not budgeted, so will need contributions from the congregation or a fund-raising plan will need to be implemented. Marcie made a motion that Betti go for the training, donations be requested, and if not enough is raised, use money from the Dan Collins' memorial fund and pay it back from the rummage/bake sale proceeds. Carolyn seconded the motion and it was approved.

### Get Going Team

The office move to the gift shop space has been approved and the audit is going on in the Echole's Hall office. A discussion was held on the location of Betti's accounting computer in Echole's Hall, and the relocation of the gift shop. It will be less expensive to move the offices to the front of the church. Plans have been drawn for the front offices, with minor changes to be made. The relocation process will be determined as this progresses. Betti is now printing the activities calendars in bold with different programs in different colors. She requested any changes, additions, etc. be penciled in so she can update them. Marcie recommended the contracts with outside programs be renewed once a year.

### Stewardship

A letter from Andrew went out announcing the time/talent meetings during this summer. Pledging letters will go out later. Five members have volunteered to host a meeting in their home with Andrew moderating each one. An e-mail will go out to remind people to sign up for one of these.

### Neighborhood

A letter requesting a fence was received from the neighbor behind the Parish Hall. Bill requested the signs for "No Parking" and "No Loitering On Church Property between 7:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m. be posted around the hall. Following some discussion regarding the complaints of neighbors of the hall, Jef suggested a conference be held with Rob Wilson-Hoss as to the legal aspects. Barb Weza and Judy Ogden agreed to meet with him before any signs would be posted.

The implications of the Historical District would only be related to the exterior appearance of the buildings in the area. St. David's is already on the historical preservation list.

A discussion was opened and Jef moved it be tabled until an executive meeting with Canon Joan Anthony is held on August 25<sup>th</sup>. It was seconded and approved.

It was moved and passed to adjourn the meeting at 7:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jen Deno, Clerk

Minutes subject to approval and correction at the next vestry meeting, September 8, 2010 at 5:30 p.m.

# September 2010

**Sun      Mon      Tue      Wed      Thu      Fri      Sat**

			<b>1</b> Stewardship home meeting	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> Vestry Meeting 5:30 pm	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> Photo Club field trip
<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> GGT 8:30 am	<b>14</b> EFM 2pm	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b> Photo Club 7 pm	<b>17</b> Rummage & Bake Sale 9 to 3	<b>18</b> Rummage & Bake Sale 9 to 3
<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> EFM 2pm	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> EFM Grads 6 pm	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> GGT 3 pm	<b>28</b> EFM 2pm	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>		

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Community of

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