



St. David's
Episcopal Church
Southfield

Spring 2019

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St. David’s Reflections



He is Risen

Karen Robertson Henry, Editor

He is risen. He is risen! And now, individually and together, the celebration of Easter behind us, we live the Resurrection. What does that look like? What are our guideposts as we meander through our personal days and through our community Sundays, our shared outreach programs, our challenges and blessings? The Baptismal Covenant, looked at thoughtfully and applied actively, helps us in this. We

answer “I will with God’s help” to the question— “Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself?” Imagine taking that with you into the office, or while dealing with a difficult neighbor, or a taciturn teenager. Imagine how that changes the dynamic. We answer “I will with God’s help” to the question— “Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ?” If we take that with us as we do our daily tasks—we walk away from situations that hurt others, we give to those who have less than we do, we offer a

He is Risen (*continued*)

smile; we use words to proclaim the Good News, only if we must. We are called to worship, and love and share and to be in community with each other, (“to continue in the apostles’ teaching, and fellowship in the breaking of bread and in prayer”). We share through this great medium—*Reflections of St. David’s*, and we remain thankful for this opportunity and for members of our parish community who continue to help us to grow together so that we can live the Resurrection. In

this spring-time edition, we hear from fellow parishioners who share with us to inform, to encourage, to open dialog and open hearts as we build community, and finally a tribute to our past assistant editor—Mary Margaret Bair.

As always, we encourage you to bring your stories to us so that we can share them in community—always mindful that Christ lives and that He lives in and through His people.

Prayer for the Community

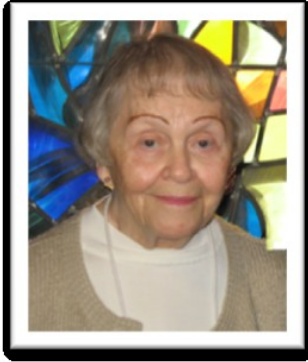
Heavenly Father, you gather us together in our faith journey
Trusting in you, we join one another as a community
A community of faith on a journey
A journey to grow ever deeper in our faith
In our Love
In our Desire to long for you
Along the way, remind us of your Love
Of your sacrifice for us
Of your ever mindful presence
Let us never lose hope along the way
Help us to be strong
Strong in Faith
Strong in Love
Strong in our Desire to be ever mindful of your presence
For it is in your strength and Love and the Graces you bestow upon us, that we
can go out and share in your Love and Faith with all those in our community.
It is in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord who lives and reigns with you and the
Holy Spirit one God For ever and ever
AMEN

From praywithme.com

“And I mean to be one too”

by Edna Buday

When our editor, Karen Henry, asked if I would write a memorial tribute about Mary Margaret Bair, I hesitated only briefly. Mary Margaret was an assistant editor for Reflections and she authored the “Just

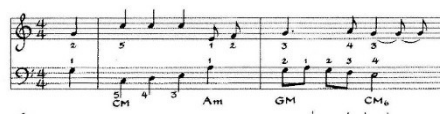


Wondering” column for many years—I had not just known her for a long time but we worked together from 2005 to 2012 when I was the editor of the monthly publications of our newsletter. In fact, I remember an early newsletter staff meeting when I suggested adding a “Just Wondering” column so that parishioners could submit their questions concerning the church, its history, its practices or St. David’s own history. Mary Margaret enthusiastically accepted the assignment.

When I started to think about what I would write in this message, I thought it would not be difficult to fill many pages just talking about the many articles she wrote, but....that would not have come close to capturing the picture of her I hoped to depict. Yes, writing a column about the questions her fellow

parishioners, both children and adults, might have had about the church along with her own curiosity did indeed motivate her in producing the many delightful, informative and educational columns.

It soon became apparent of what the focus of my message would be. Those of you who knew Mary Margaret or who attended the beautiful memorial service for her learned that she was mother of six boys, a grandmother of ten, and a great-grandmother of nine and that she was a teacher in her professional life. If you spent any time with her, you would know how very much she loved all the children in her life—her own and those in the many classes she taught while teaching for the Archdiocese of Detroit. It was that love she brought to St. David’s where so many adults fondly remember her as their Sunday School teacher. Until just a short time ago, Mary Margaret was leading and teaching children in Godly Play on Sunday mornings and Vacation Bible School. As I reflected on how her faith and love of God propelled and guided her actions—whether educating through the “Just Wondering” column or teaching our young children, I could not stop hearing the lyrics or the tune of the popular and well-loved children’s hymn written by Lesbia Scott —



1 I sing a song of the saints of God,
patient and brave and true,
who toiled and fought and lived and died
for the Lord they loved and knew.
And one was a doctor, and one was a queen,
and one was a shepherdess on the green:
they were all of them saints of God, and I mean,
God helping, to be one too.

2 They loved their Lord so dear, so dear,
and God’s love made them strong;
and they followed the right, for Jesus’ sake,
the whole of their good lives long.

And one was a soldier, and one was a priest,
and one was slain by a fierce wild beast:
and there’s not any reason, no, not the least,
why I shouldn’t be one too.

3 They lived not only in ages past;
there are hundreds of thousands still;
the world is bright with the joyous saints
who love to do Jesus’ will.
You can meet them in school, or in lanes, or at sea,
in church, or in trains, or in shops, or at tea;
for the saints of God are just folk like me,
and I mean to be one too.

~Lesbia Scott 1929

Congratulations St. David's

By Marilyn Greening

Each year, the Southfield Chamber of Commerce sponsors “Excellence in Southfield Awards” to recognize Southfield businesses and individuals who demonstrate leadership in business and community service. Winners are selected by the Chamber’s Awards Selections Committee.

There are seven categories: Small Business of the Year, Top Project of the Year, Volunteer of the Year, Commitment to Community, Outstanding Chamber Business, Rising Star and Young Professional of The Year.

St. David’s, being a member of the Chamber qualifies to submit a nomination. Father Chris asked if I would write the nomination for 2018. Not my forte, but I agreed. Our category would be *Commitment to Community*. After all, our symbol, the dove, spreads its wings over the many efforts put forth by our church.

The nomination, being submitted, I forgot about the issue since two previous recommendations had not been recognized. However, a few weeks later, Father Chris called to say that St. David’s was a nominee for *Commitment to Community*.

On Thursday, November 29, 2018, Father Chris, Chuck and I attended the Excellence in Southfield Awards and Reception at the Detroit Marriot Southfield. The competition for the *Commitment to Community Award* was keen, three being businesses: BASF Corporation, Guardian Alarm and Namaste Wellness. Needless to say, we were overjoyed when St. David’s was announced the winner of the 2018 *Commitment to Community Award*. Father Chris accepted the award with graciousness and humor, saying in effect, “it’s dangerous to give a microphone to a clergyman”.

With the unwavering endeavors, undertakings and love for one another, in our community and beyond, this award to St. David’s was justly earned. I believe, with the dove of St. David of Wales, this was a sign of God’s grace and blessing.



The certificate and award are displayed on the table next to the narthex door.

Even though there are more and ever evolving commitments at St. David's, the commitments described in the nomination below, were the ones submitted for consideration.

Nomination
2018 "Excellence in Southfield" Award
Category-Commitment to Community
Statement Nomination: St. David's Episcopal Church
16200 W. 12 Mile Road, Southfield, MI 48076
9 November, 2018

St. David's has a 60-year history of commitment to the community of Southfield and its environs.

In 2018 we held our 5th End Homelessness Now race, to benefit clients at the Lathrup Village-based South Oakland Shelter, and have raised, over the past 5 years more than \$250,000.

Also, St. David's is a founding member of the South Oakland Shelter (SOS) and served as a host church for homeless families for 30 years, providing more than 7,000 people/nights for needy people. Each year parishioners provide housing, meals, and transportation for clients.

In addition, there are ongoing community service programs sponsored by the parish. St. David's initial service was and still is the 12-Step Program (AA, AlAnon, etc). In 60 years of meetings more than 238,000 lives have been touched through this outreach.

Our donations to the nearby Open Hands Food Pantry has exceeded 15,000 pounds over our 10 years of giving. This includes donations of fresh vegetables from our on campus garden.

In the past 8 years, 30 volunteers have worked with 100+ students at nearby Vandenburg World Cultures Academy. Parishioners have filled backpacks with thousands of pounds of food, clothing and school supplies to assist needy Syrian refugee families and others.

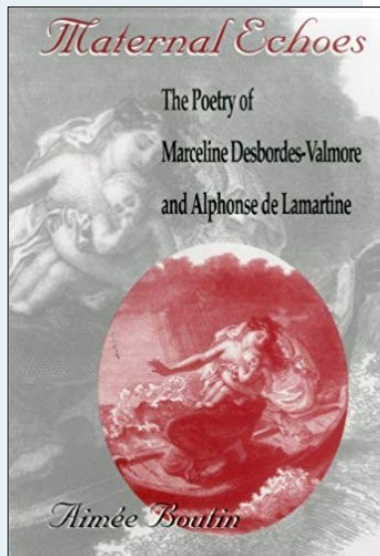
Since 2008 St. David's has also been active in volunteering for the Crossroads soup kitchen in Detroit, preparing and serving 18,000 meals via 650 volunteers.

Right now, St. David's, a founder of Lift Up Southfield! (www.liftupsouthfield.org), is housing a 26' semi trailer in its front driveway to collect new and used coats from the Southfield community to donate to the needy.

St. David's' doors are always open to those seeking aid financially, physically, or spiritually as it looks to fulfill its mission of 'Worship, Outreach, and Love for All.'

Respectfully submitted, Marilyn Greening

*We continue to love
and serve God through
worship, outreach and
love for all.*



Sing, Love, Give!

by Jennifer Law-Sullivan

“To The Tearful Ones”

by Marceline Desbordes-Valmore

Translated by Aimée Boutin

You, unloved, whom I pity most of all;
You, who suffer, accept a sister's love;
To you they go, my slow and drifting dreams,
Sweetly bitter notes, setting tears in song.

A soul resides, imprisoned in this book:
Open it and read: count my painful days,
Grieve in this world where I remain unknown,
And dream of hot cinders to heat your chains.

Sing: for a woman's song relieves our pain.
Love: for suffering thrives on hate, not love.
Give: and let charity revive our hope;
While we can give we will not wish to die!

If there is no time to inscribe your tears,
You can let them fall here from eyes to page;
To pray is to absolve; let our prayers be arms:
And absolve this, my open book of days.

To be spreading secrets in windy speech,
Has reason left her half-witted, insane?
No, perhaps she's more tender than mad:
Do we scorn songbirds who scatter their song?

This is a poem by the French poet Marceline Desbordes-Valmore, written in 1843 and translated by one of my former professors. It's a poem that she introduced me to in graduate school and I've loved it ever since. It has an empowering message about a communality that exists between women, one that reminds us to support each other, to cry together, and to sing together.

As I've thought about what I wanted to write for this newsletter, I kept coming back to how much I love our church. St. David's is, for me, a sacred place where I can act on Desbordes-Valmore's commands to

sing, love, and give. At the risk of being banal, life is so hard. We're faced every day with moments that bring us to tears and to our knees in prayer. A death in the family, a broken relationship, a loved one in pain, cancer, homelessness, gun violence... these wounds in our world sometimes bring me to the brink of despair. But then we all come together on Sunday morning and we hug, we love, we pray, we sing, and I feel like I can carry on. When we work together to host the South Oakland Shelter, when we polish the silver and clean the altar linens, when we study the Bible in Sunday School classes with the children—it is in these moments that my hope is revived. Here our prayers do indeed become our arms and we are empowered to stand together for what's right and to call for justice. The last verse of this poem asks us to show each other grace for we are not crazy, but tender. We are songbirds sharing our songs with each other and it is in this sharing that we find comfort for ourselves, but also comfort each other.

Father Chris often reminds us that we belong to each other and that our relationships with each other are what matter the most. I think this is what Desbordes-Valmore was saying as well. When we come together to sing, to love and to forgive, and to give to others, then our hope is revived.



Photos by Joanne Sackett

Building Project Update

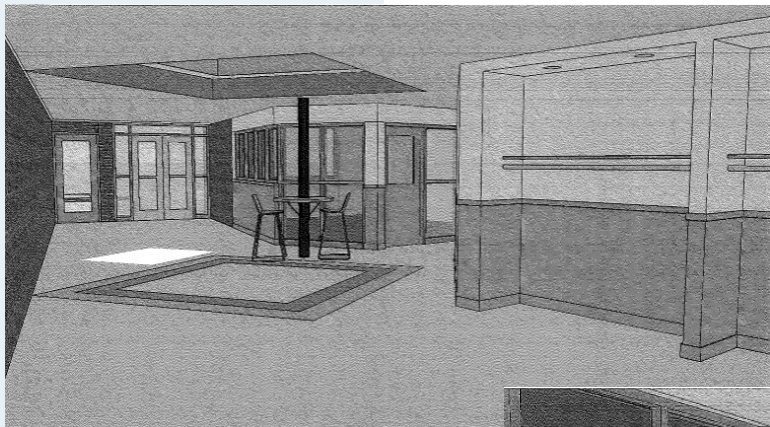
By Ellen Boyes

Phase One: Roof Replacement

Phase One of our building project started on April 8, 2019 with the roof replacement. That is complete and we have a great new roof with a 20-year warranty. (If you can, log on to the St David's Group Facebook Page—there you'll see blow-by-blow pictures and updates of the project.)

Phase Two: Vestibule Re-do

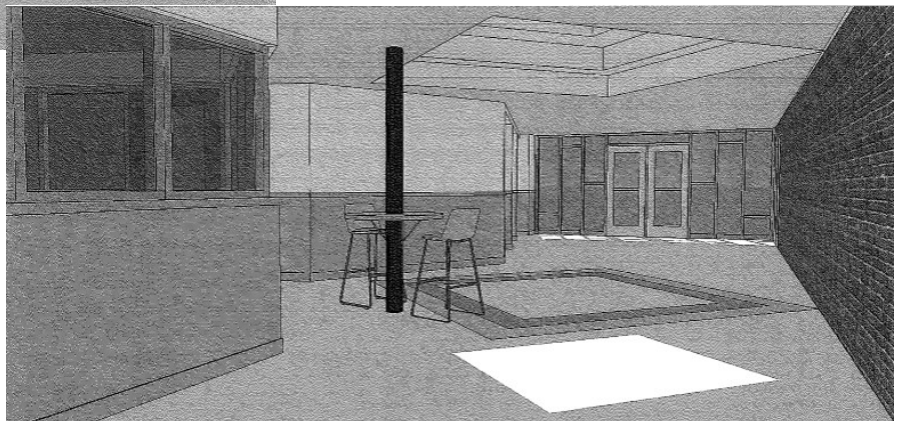
Work on Phase 2 starts on April 29 with a three day asbestos abatement to carefully and thoroughly remove the asbestos from the tiles and ceiling. Once that is done, the actually rebuilding will begin, scheduled to start May 1 through June 28, 2019. We will have two months of eager anticipation for the exciting make-over, and a little adjustment as we will be unable to use the vestibule. Access to the sanctuary will be through the grey, security looking side door that leads to the boiler room and is usually locked. We will shortly have color samples that will be reviewed and voted on by the Parish Building Committee; this selection will then go to the vestry building sub-committee then on to the vestry for the final approval.



Artist's Rendition of the redesigned vestibule

Left: Looking at the doors coming in from the parking lot

Below: Looking at the door going out to 12 Mile



Throw It In A Pot And Call It Dinner

by Jessica Rienstra

Growing up, when my mom cooked dinner it was because we had to eat. When my dad cooked, it was because he found it great fun. If Dad was in the kitchen, you never knew what magic might be pulled out of the oven or be sizzling in the pans on the stove. He would see what ingredients we had and just start throwing things together. His creations were (almost) always delicious! One of my favorite things to do with my dad was make the Thanksgiving turkey and stuffing. A bit of this, a bit of that. Oh, needs a little more garlic. Let's chop some more sage and throw that in. I seem to have inherited my dad's tendency to make up dinner as I go along, and usually it's pretty tasty.



One night my young son walked in to the kitchen and asked the ceaseless question, "What're we having for dinner?" I had no idea what we were having for dinner that night. You'd think that since the family needs to eat every day I would've gotten better at planning ahead, but that just wasn't the case--much to my own chagrin. Without thinking I replied, "We're having 'Throw it in a Pot and Call it Dinner!'" Since then, my kids would frequently ask if we were having "Throw it in a Pot and Call it Dinner". "We LOVE 'Throw it in a Pot and Call it Dinner!'"

"Throw it in a Pot" generally means I dig through the fridge and pantry and use up whatever meat and veggies we have available. I serve it over pasta or rice or with diced potatoes, or by itself. It's nothing fancy, but it always tastes good!



Want to try your own "Throw it in a Pot"? Here's how!

Start with a meat. See below for vegetarian/vegan options. Sautee some chopped chicken, beef, ground meat or sausage, or even bacon. Use a bit of olive or avocado oil for the less fatty meats. Meanwhile, chop your veggies. I always start with a couple of onions because they add such good flavor. (Chop them up really small for picky kids, or really big so kids can push them off to the side.) Toss those in with the cooking meat.

(Continued on page 10)

Throw It A Pot . . . (continued from page 9)

Then add whatever other veggies you'd like! Bell peppers, broccoli, carrots, asparagus... the sky's the limit here! Just use what you have and enjoy. Season liberally with salt and pepper and choose a few complementary herbs and other spices. Italian seasoning is a pretty safe bet, or you could make it Asian style with some ginger, soy sauce, and sriracha. Or Ethiopian style with berbere (a delicious spice mix!), Indian style with garam masala... again, choose what you like! If you're not sure how much to add, start with just a bit and do a taste test (as long as the meat is fully cooked). Don't be afraid to try new things!

To make this vegetarian or vegan, simply use a meat substitute such as tofu, or add in any type of cooked beans, or just add extra veggies. The timing can take a bit of trial and error. If the meat is done and you haven't started the veggies, pull out the meat, cook the veggies and then toss the meat back in. I usually serve over brown rice or whole wheat pasta unless there are already potatoes in the dish, but if you're going low carb you can eat it as is or use a low carb noodle or veggie spirals, etc. There are plenty of ways to customize! Depending on the herbs and spices you used, you can toss a little cheese on top or add some extra hot sauce on the table for those who like it spicy!

Ready to Eat, and Served with Love



Book Review

Eavesdropping: Learning to Pray from Those who Talked to Jesus by Henry Martin

By The Very Rev. Chris Yaw

Emily Dickinson’s famous writer’s idiom — ‘tell it slant’— comes to mind whenever I venture to another country to find spiritual succor. Hearing familiar texts interpreted by those who come at them from a slightly different angle can be surprisingly inspiring.

This was the case over Lent when I read *Eavesdropping*, a marvelous once-a-day devotional designed for the 40-day journey to the Pascha.

Full disclosure, the author and I attended seminary in England together, which warranted the book’s arrival by Ash Wednesday.

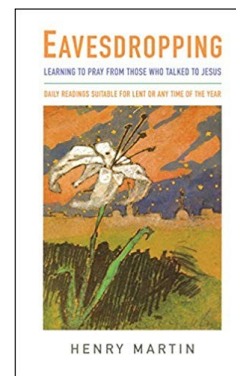
However, its completion during Holy Week was certainly due to merit and not friendship.

Broken into 49, 3-4 page devotions, the book contains bits of Gospel conversations between Jesus and various interlocutors, and Rev. Martin’s informed commentary illuminating the context, physical surroundings, and modern scholarly interpretation. The aim is to learn why Jesus prayed the way he did, and ask what we might learn from it as to improve our petitionary exercises.

Of special note was Rev. Martin’s observation that Jesus’ prayer on the cross, ‘Father forgive them for they know not what they do’

also serves as a healthy strategy to implement when faced with people who injure us, knowingly or not.

This book could be read at times other than Lent and is an attractive way to learn and relearn some of Jesus’ most memorable tales and quotes.



Rector’s Wish List

Blue Advent vestments (\$2,000)

Matching ambo throw and altar linens for green and red sets (\$2,000)

Storage doors for Narthex under steps

Permanent Stations of the Cross (\$4,000)

Reflections from the Drive Thru

Rector's Message



The beauty of our beloved red doors is their symbolism.

Red doors are associated with refuge. Apparently, in much earlier times, when the authorities sought alleged criminals, churches were safe havens, perhaps like embassies on foreign soil today. Doors were red to be more conspicuous; it was advertising a sort of hospitality to those in dire need of safe haven.

It is in that tradition that modern houses of worship sport red doors, and perhaps it is more of a reminder to those of us who attend church than those who pass by, that we are to be conspicuous advertisers of hospitality and refuge.

This was our attempt on April 19, Good Friday, when a dozen or so St. David's volunteers donned white albs, and took crosses and Collects into their hands, to minister to those seeking a sort of spiritual refuge on our campus.

We had advertised 'Good Friday Drive Thru Prayer with Free Crosses.'

Even though I had done two radio interviews ahead of time, when I arrived at St. David's at 6:45am to open the church, I was not prepared to see cars already in line waiting for prayer, a blessing, and a cross.

We opened our drive for 11 hours, from 7:00 am to 6:00 pm, and were given the gift of praying for more than 300 people who, unsolicited, donated \$240 to St. David's.

Traffic was heaviest during the rush hours, but steady for much of the day as people pulled in to tell us their needs and offer their prayers. We prayed for cancer patients, dialysis treatments, anxiety, and depression and considered ourselves the main benefactors of this activity.

For, with God's grace, St. David's had provided an important place of refuge that won't be soon forgotten.

Fr. Christ†

Photo Gallery

Parish Life
at St. David's

Joanne and Len Sackett



Volunteers serving breakfast to raise money for our Haiti mission.



Blessing a new baby at St. David's.



Watching over another new baby St. David's .



Greeting our visiting preacher from Haiti.



New acolytes in action



Another new acolyte.



Preparing treats for our friends at St. Anne's Mead



Making Valentines for the folks at St. Anne's Mead



Hosting SOS at the end of February. Lots of helpers came to drive, prepare and serve food...



...and on the last day, do the laundry.



About 800 people were served on Drive Thru Ashes



Celebrating Mrs. Jones' 99th birthday.



Getting ready to distribute the palms.



Sing Hosanna!



Good Friday—Drive thru crosses with a prayer.



Happy Easter Morning.

Reflections of St. David's

Karen Robertson Henry, Editor
Edna Buday, Asst. & Print Editor
Steve Ernst, Digital Editor
John Hawkes, Writer and Editor
Joanne Sackett, Photographer
The Very Rev. Chris Yaw, Rector
Lynne Zacharias, Production Asst.

Bible Quiz

1. What promise did King David make to Bathsheba his wife?
_____.
2. Who dreamed that the sun and the moon and 11 stars bowed down to him? _____
3. Blessed are the pure in heart, for they _____
4. Who said, "I know that my Redeemer lives?" _____
5. How many books are there in the standard Bible? _____
6. Who was chosen to replace Judas as the twelfth apostle?

7. Whose bones did Moses take with him when the Israelites left Egypt? _____
8. Who asked for John the Baptist's head on a platter?

9. Who is the only female judge mentioned in the Bible?

10. Who is the second most mentioned man in the Bible?

11. In the parable of the tenants, what did the tenants do to the vineyard owner's son? _____
12. Who climbed a sycamore tree in order to see Jesus as he entered Jericho? _____.

Answers Below:

1) her son would be king 2) Joseph 3) shall see God 4) Job: 5) 66 6) Matthias
7) Joseph 8) Salome 9) Deborah 10) King David 11) they killed him 12) Zacharias



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