

Saint David's Episcopal Church

THE *Wild* ONION



**SPECIAL EDITION
JANUARY, 2007**

ST. DAVID'S ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

Sunday, January 14, 2007
9:15 a.m.
in the nave

Mark the date and time for St. David's Annual Parish Meeting when we will elect four members to the Vestry Class of 2009. To be eligible to serve on the Vestry, one must be at least 18 years old, a confirmed Episcopalian, and a communicant of St. David's Church, having been either confirmed here or received by Letter of Transfer from another parish. Vestry members are expected:

- to be involved in the programs, activities, and spiritual life of the parish;
- to be regular in attendance and worship, to attend monthly Vestry meeting, the annual Vestry retreat, and other meetings when scheduled;
- to practice proportionate giving with an awareness of the tithe as the biblical standard of giving;
- to assume a leadership role in the parish; and
- to be willing to serve as a liaison to a cluster or a committee.

Please look closely at the enclosed biographical information of the slate which has been compiled by the Nominating Committee (the outgoing Vestry Class of 2006). According to our by-laws, one hundred persons constitute a quorum, and eligible voters must be confirmed and be 16 years of age. Annual reports will be made by clergy and lay leaders, and the 2006 year-end financials will be presented. The budget for 2007, which was adopted by the Vestry on December 12, 2006, is enclosed with this special edition of the *Wild Onion*.

E.S.G.

NOTES & REMINDERS FOR JANUARY, 2007

- St. David's hosts Room in the Inn (at St. Luke's Community House, 5601 New York Avenue) beginning at 6:00 p.m. on Saturday, January 13. Please volunteer! Check the sign-up sheet on the Sanders Hall bulletin board, and/or call Mary Jo and Tony Howland (356-6797), Kathie Dougan (356-4386), or Emily and Thunder Jones (383-4833) for more information.
- The Vestry will meet with the new Class of 2009 at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, January 16. Dinner in Sanders Hall will precede the meeting at 6:30 p.m.
- St. David's Bridge Club will gather in Sanders Hall on Saturday, January 20, at 7:00 p.m.
- The 175th Annual Convention of the Diocese of Tennessee will meet on Thursday and Friday, January 25-26, at Christ Church Cathedral. In addition to the clergy, the lay delegates from St. David's are: Joe Brown, Bill Gish, and Betty Lentz. Alternates are: Judy Grace, Susan Huggins, and Annette Pilcher. Please keep the convention and the delegates in your thoughts and prayers.
- The Ordination and Consecration of the Rev. John C. Bauerschmidt as Bishop of Tennessee will take place at Christ Church, 15354 Old Hickory Boulevard, on Saturday, January 27, at 10:00 a.m. Make plans now to attend this historic event in the life of our diocese.
- A new flower chart is on the Sanders Hall bulletin board for those who would like to give flowers on any given Sunday during 2007. It's the perfect way to honor or memorialize a person or event.
- Sunday morning breakfasts will resume on Sunday, January 7. (There will be no breakfast, however, on the day of the Annual Parish Meeting, January 14.) A sign-up sheet for chefs is on the Sanders Hall bulletin board. Will you help? Proceeds from these popular (and delicious) breakfasts go into a designated account called the "kitchen fund," which helps to cover costs associated with the operation of the kitchen, i.e., dishwasher, microwave, etc. Many, many thanks to all of our chefs who have so generously provided for us since Rally Day last September: Mary Jo and Dick Murphy, Mary Ann and Preston Lentz, Andrea Herlong and the EYC (twice!), Debbie McDougall, Howard Fox, Susan Moore, Linda Heft, Carolyn Avery, Madison Moore, Kathy Carlson, Mary Lou Pierce, Mary Ann Armbrister, the Daughters of the King, and Lynda Christiansen.

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING
BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES OF NOMINEES FOR VESTRY
JANUARY 14, 2007

Julie Erwin

I was raised in Memphis and attended the Church of the Holy Communion. I graduated from The Lausanne School and Rhodes College. I am married to Johnny, and we have three children and four grandchildren. We arrived in Nashville and joined St. David's in 1973. My past and present activities at St. David's include: one Vestry term, Christian Formation Committee, Christian Formation teacher, Christian Formation event and project planner, Daughters of the King, the Monday Bible Study class, the Flower Guild, Foyer Groups, Room in the Inn, and Agape. I graduated from EFM in 2006.

I am an artist and a retired Early Childhood Christian Educator. My hobbies include gardening, travel, arts and crafts, keeping up with the children and grandchildren, and reading.

Rahn Huber

Rahn was born in Connecticut but actually grew up on Merritt Island, Florida, which is truly an island. She learned how to drive (a stick shift!) on the island which was flat and had one main road up the middle. So when she moved to Tampa for college and experienced hills and a clutch, it was like learning to drive all over again. Rahn lived in Florida until she went to graduate school for library science at Emory University. She then stayed in Atlanta for 26 years having a varied professional career. Her primary unknown fame is that she was the original researcher and author of CNN's FACTOIDS. Her past work experience included: 5 years of owning a library consulting firm, working for a headhunter, and doing patent and chemical research for Amoco Polymers. Rahn moved to Nashville in 2004 to take a job with Vanderbilt's Graduate Business School Library as the Manager of Outreach and Business Information Services. When she first visited St. David's, her idea was to "try it for awhile." She wanted to visit several Episcopal churches in Nashville before choosing the one to join. But it didn't take her long to realize that St. David's was the right parish for her. Rahn got married at St. David's in October, 2006, and feels so at home in the parish. It is an honor to be involved with St. David's and to better get to know other members of the parish family.

Thunder Jones

I was born in 1978 and was raised in Gallatin, Tennessee. During high school, I met Emily. We both attended a small college outside of Dallas and were married after my sophomore year in college. After receiving my B.S. in biblical studies, I attended seminary at Boston University and received my Master of Theological

Studies in ethics and completed a second Master of Theology from Duke University.

I currently work as a realtor in Gallatin; Emily graduated from Belmont University in December and is considering career options. I have aspiration for priesthood in the Episcopal Church and hope to begin that process in the future. We have no children, but two kittens that keep us more than occupied.

We began attending St. David's in September of 2004. In the winter of 2004, we became involved with St. David's efforts with Room in the Inn. This past fall, we began teaching the Rite-13 class (junior high Christian education). We love the parish home we have at St. David's, and I am glad to have the opportunity to be considered for further service to St. David's on the Vestry.

Steve McElroy

I grew up in Pennsylvania and moved with my family to Nashville 4 1/2 years ago to complete my medical subspecialty training at Vanderbilt University as a neonatologist. Shortly after arriving in Nashville, we were fortunate to stumble on a little church in the middle of nowhere named St. David's. We attended one service and were immediately hooked. In the 3 1/2 years we have been members, St. David's has truly become a part of our everyday lives. My wife Betsy is the church coordinator for the Godly Play curriculum, sings in the choir, and regularly attends the weekly Bible study class led by Ann Walling. Our sons, Evan and Kyle, attend Godly Play and children's worship and have met some of their best friends here at the church. As for myself, I helped found the Bloomin' Onions group, I sing tenor in the choir, I am a current member of the Stewardship Committee, and I helped chair the Food Committee for this past fall's Songwriter's Night. As we have become more active in the church, being a member of St. David's has meant more to me than just being a member of a church. The St. David's community has become a true extension of my family and has been the source of our strongest friends in Nashville. It is a true honor to be nominated to sit on the Vestry, and I look forward to an additional way to give back to the community that has given us so much.

**ST. DAVID'S STEWARDSHIP PICTURE: THE GOOD,
THE BAD, AND THE UGLY**

St. David's stewardship picture is a mixed bag as can be seen from the table below:

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Estimated Possible Pledging Units	109	103	122	114
Pledging Units	103	122	114	128
Average Pledge	\$2,365	\$2,148	\$2,310	\$2,086
Total Pledge Income	\$243,600	\$262,110	\$263,393	\$278,142
Amount Pledged, but not Paid	\$9,337	\$15,991	\$26,700	---

There is much to celebrate. Our church is slowly growing; possible pledging units and actual pledging units have increased over time. The average pledge has remained stable along with the church's budget. The percentage of pledging units that actually pledge is extremely high. For 2007, we exceeded our expectations by fourteen units. St. David's family gives generously outside of pledge income. We have given thousands of dollars to Episcopal Relief and Development, the Hispanic Lunch Program, and to our overseas missions in Honduras, Ecuador, Uganda, and Mexico. We support fundraisers for these missions through Souper Sunday, Cinco de Mayo lunches, Songwriters' Nights, and Gringo Markets. We give our time and talent to many worthwhile causes in the community including St. Luke's, the Campus for Human Development, Magdalene House, and many other worthwhile causes. In recent years, we have completed a very successful capital campaign that improved our physical plant and our morale. Many of us are active in diocesan affairs, serving on boards and commissions and participating in the life of the diocese through worship and service.

However, there is some bad news. At the end of the last three budget cycles, we have had substantial shortfalls in pledge income. 2006 was the worst as the shortage was nearly \$27,000. In other words, some of the pledging units have failed to pay their pledge in full, and for the last three years, it has been getting worse.

Here comes the ugly. Each year the Vestry must discount the pledge income to compensate for those who do not complete their pledge. In other words, we have a percentage of the budget that is unavailable for disbursement because we know that some pledges will not be paid.

This is the REALLY ugly. In order to fill in the gap between the pledges and the actual amount collected, we are dipping into our reserve funds. Obviously, this cannot go on

forever. Our reserve funds are limited, \$16,000.00 at the moment. If we have an unforeseen financial catastrophe, such as a tornado, a fire, or some other financial catastrophe, we may be in serious trouble.

Here are suggestions to help remedy the situation:

1. Pray daily for the continuing mission of St. David's.
2. Pay your 2006 pledge in full. Put "2006 pledge" on the memo line of your check.
3. Pledge realistically.
4. Pay what you pledge.
5. If through some personal or financial difficulty you are unable to pay your pledge, please tell the Rector or the Treasurer. All communication is confidential, and pledge amounts can be adjusted throughout the year.
6. If you are fortunate enough to come into a windfall, please consider giving part of it to St. David's. Practice "All things come of thee, O Lord, and of thine own have we given thee."

If you have any questions about the life of stewardship at St. David's, do not hesitate to contact me, the Rector, or any member of the Vestry. Blessings!

Annette Pilcher

2006 Stewardship Vestry Liaison

January 2007 Lay Ministry Schedule

	January 7 Epiphany I	January 14 Epiphany II	January 21 Epiphany III	January 28 Epiphany IV	February 4 Epiphany V
ACOLYTES - 10:30 a.m.					
Crucifer	K. GREEN	A. MARTIN	R. HOWLAND	M. GREEN	H. FOX
Torchbearer	T. SWIFT	J. JOLIE	J. DUKE	M. MOORE	T. SWIFT
Torchbearer	D. RAINEY	L. RAYHAB	L. LECHLEITER	R. GREEN	D. RAINEY
USHERS - 10:30 a.m.	D. DUKE	J. HAMILTON	C. BROOKS	A. HOVIOUS	K. AGEE
	M. SWEENEY	D. MURPHY	B. VAN CLEAVE	L. HOVIOUS	E. SANDERS
FLOWER GUILD	K. DOUGAN	D. ROGERS	H. GASPARD	M. HINTON	J. ERWIN
(Saturday)	E. ROBERT	C. HINTON	M. L. RAYHAB	D. WILLIAMS	M. BROWN
ALTAR GUILD	H. SULLIVAN	J. LEATHERS	D. ROGERS	L. NEWSOM	M. ELLISTON
(Saturday)	M. ELLISTON	C. HINTON	S. MOORE	M. ADAMS	J. LEATHERS
	L. GUSTAVE	M. HINTON	M. L. PIERCE	D. RAYHAB	L. NEWSOM
		L. McLEVAIN	W. WATTS		M. L. RAYHAB
BREAKFAST CHEFS	C. AVERY/ M. MOORE	NO BREAKFAST	H. FOX	tba	tba
COUNTERS - 10:30 a.m.	W. WATTS	J. LENTZ	S. COOK	D. WILKINSON	W. WATTS
	D. AXFORD	B. LENTZ	A. PILCHER	J. RAYHAB	D. AXFORD
LECTORS					
8:00 a.m.	K. CARLSON	J. FERRELLI	P. LENTZ	M. L. PIERCE	C. FARRAR
10:30 a.m.	S. HOWELL	P. HALPERIN	L. HOVIOUS	G. HARMON	J. HAMILTON
L.E.M.'S - 10:30 a.m.	J. SWEENEY	S. GRAY	S. COOK	K. LECHLEITER	D. ROGERS
	N. GILLIS*	A. PILCHER*	V. BALLANCE*	B. LENTZ*	S. GISH*
GODLY PLAY 1	J. SANDERS, B. McELROY	C. KIRKPATRICK, L. KIRKPATRICK	S. SPECTOR, W. McFALLS	STORIES IN ACTION	K. NAPIER, H. GASPARD
GODLY PLAY 2	M. J. HOWLAND, C. AVERY	M. AGEE, K. AGEE	S. SPECTOR, W. McFALLS	STORIES IN ACTION	M. J. HOWLAND, C. AVERY
GODLY PLAY 3	M. L. RAYHAB	B. McELROY	CHURCH WORKS	STORIES IN ACTION	M. L. RAYHAB

**ST. DAVID'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
2007 BUDGET**

INCOME

Pledge Income		278,142.00
	Pledge discount	11,125.68
Net Pledge Income		267,016.32
Loose Offering		13,000.00
RMK reimbursement		6,000.00
Miscellaneous		0.00
Prior year pledges		3,000.00
TOTAL INCOME		289,016.32

EXPENSES

Mission/Outreach

Diocesan Pledge	25,828.00
National Church	2,329.00

Total Mission/Outreach 28,157.00

Rector

Stipend	78,293.16
Life/Health/Disability Ins.	14,865.00
Pension	14,092.77

Total Rector 107,250.93

Christian Education

Christian Education Program	1,800.00
Christian Education Coordinator	2,000.00
Social Security - employer - 6.2%	0.00
Medicare - employer - 1.45%	0.00
Youth Director	8,625.00
Social Security - employer - 6.2%	534.75
Medicare - employer - 1.45%	125.06
Youth/EYC	500.00

Total Christian Education 13,584.81

Music Program

Director's salary	29,589.18
Social Security - employer - 6.2%	1,834.53
Medicare - employer - 1.45%	429.04
Director's insurance	6,828.00
Music program expense	2,500.00

Total Music Program 41,180.75

Clergy Auto Expenses 0.00

Administrative Expenses

Secretary's salary	12,630.70
Social Security - employer	783.10

**ST. DAVID'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
2007 BUDGET**

Medicare - employer	183.15
Office Supplies	1,750.00
Office equipment maintenance/repair	1,400.00
Postage	900.00
Advertising	0.00
Audit	3,500.00
Printing	1,000.00
Child Care/Nursery	7,700.00
Miscellaneous expense (fees, filings, subscriptions, e-mail, etc.)	1,000.00
Total Administrative Expenses	30,846.95
Building & Grounds Expense	
Sexton	10,300.00
Building maintenance/repair	2,000.00
Building supplies	1,250.00
Equipment maintenance/repair	4,000.00
Grounds	4,000.00
Total Building & Grounds Expense	21,550.00
Property & Liability Insurance	9,000.00
Utilities	
Electricity	19,300.00
Gas	12,000.00
Water	1,625.00
Telephone	4,000.00
Alarm service	450.00
Total Utilities Expense	37,375.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	288,945.44