
THE STAR

SAINT DAVID'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
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THE REVEREND KEVIN V. HILGENDORF,
DEAN OF NORTHEAST PHILADELPHIA CONFERENCE

August 2010

Pastoral Letter on Gulf Coast Oil Spill from Presiding Bishop Mark S. Hanson

**The Lord is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and
abounding in steadfast love. The Lord is good to all,
and his compassion is over all that he has made.**

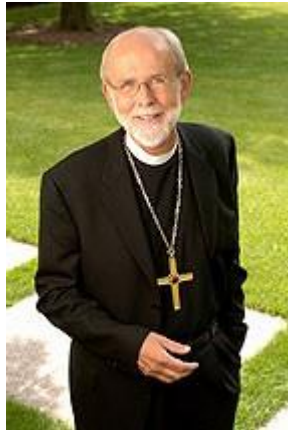
- Psalm 145:8-9

June 28, 2010

Sisters and brothers in
Christ,

The oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico is both heartbreaking and infuriating. It causes deep sorrow, both for the initial loss of human life and for the deep and lasting damage to an ecology that provides life and livelihoods for so many of God's creatures. At the same time we grieve that the natural beauty of this region, a sign of God's marvelous creativity, has been defiled.

Moving to indignation and anger over the neglect and carelessness that led to this disaster, both in private industry and in government regulation, is understandable. However, to do so without recognizing the responsibility we all share -- as consumers of petroleum products, as investors in an economy that makes intensive and insistent energy demands, and as citizens responsible for the care of creation -- lacks credibility and integrity. An honest accounting of what happened (and what failed to happen) must include our own repentance.



Nonetheless, God remains faithful in restoring the creation and human community. Among the voices that despair and condemn, we have a witness of hope to proclaim.

First, God, who made the creation and made it good, has not abandoned it. Day after day God sustains life in this world, and the powerful vitality of God's creation, though defiled, is not destroyed. The life-giving power of God's creative goodness remains at work, even in the Gulf of Mexico. The Spirit will continue to renew the face of the earth (Psalm 104:30, as we just sang at Pentecost). All who care for the earth and work for the restoration of its vitality can be confident that they are not pursuing a lost cause. They serve in concert with God's own creative and renewing power.

Moreover, the human family need not drown in a flood of suspicion and recrimination that is more toxic and more lasting than the oil that floods the Gulf can ever be. The cleansing waters of baptism in Christ -- who died not for the righteous, but for the unrighteous -- bring forgiveness and reconciliation with God. In this reconciled life with God we have the freedom to move beyond mutual condemnations and hostility to give a powerful witness of a reconciled community that lives in service of the creation and the neighbor. By refusing to surrender to the toxicity of recrimination, we can convince others that they can join us safely in the life and service of this community.

Responding to a challenge of this size and complexity will call upon countless insights and skills, embodied in hundreds of occupations and trades, and upon the collective strength and will of us all. God's Holy Spirit has abundantly blessed the human community with the gifts needed to do this work.

We can do it with sober confidence, good will and even joy.

There are times for mourning and for repentance, as well as for reconciliation and commitment to the creation's care. They come at different moments for different people. As you serve in your communities, I commend to you resources for worship, study and action that express the hope of Christians who see God's creative goodness, Jesus' forgiving reconciliation and the Spirit's abundant gifts for service. This is a moment when the human community needs to hear a word of true hope, and we have one to speak.

In God's grace,

The Rev. Mark S. Hanson
Presiding Bishop, Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Thank you

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

"You will be enriched in every way for great generosity, which through us will produce thanksgiving in God." – 2 Corinthians 9:11



I was pleased to receive your Mission Support of the Southeastern Pennsylvania Synod and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America equaling \$18,090.85. These generous gifts given in 2009 to support our Synod and Churchwide ministries were truly appreciated!

As we grow in our synodical witness to Jesus Christ, we are blessed to have a network of gifted, committed and courageous leaders at St. David's Lutheran Church. Christ has empowered us to love one another and we are grateful for the resources which are essential to the advancement of God's mission in Southeastern Pennsylvania.

Our Lord has touched your hearts and compelled you to give to your brothers and sisters and to our Christian life together. Because of the faithful tithes and offerings from your members we are able to continue sharing God's love in our five-county area, serving the needs of the diverse communities, and witnessing to the Good News of Jesus Christ in word and action.

As the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, we are One Church, with "Three Expressions"; congregations, synod and the (national and global) churchwide expression. We can do so much more together than we could ever do alone.

You can be sure that your gifts are essential to the health, vitality, and growth of our congregations, our Southeastern Pennsylvania Synod, and our Evangelical Lutheran Church in America for decades to come.

May God continue to bless you all in His generous and abundant grace.

With and In Christ,
Claire S. Burkat, Bishop

Dear Pastor Kevin,

Thank you so very much for speaking at mom's funeral. You helped lift the burden with your kind words of wisdom. You were a comfort to the entire family.

Sincerely the Family of Joan Montgomery

Dear Pastor Kevin,

I want to thank you for changing your schedule to accommodate my mother's memorial service. I am grateful to you for all of your help, advice and prayers throughout the process of preparing for her memorial, and I am also thankful to be part of such a CARING CHURCH COMMUNITY THAT KEPT MY MOTHER, Andrew and me in their thoughts and prayers both before and after her passing.

My family and I appreciate the wonderful way in which you come across as truly celebrating my/our mother's life...it served to uplift our spirits as well as those who attended.

Please accept our heartfelt thanks for everything.

Sincerely,
Lisa Duemig

Thank you, God!

A decorative flourish consisting of a central scroll-like element with symmetrical, leafy patterns extending outwards.

Thank you Continued...
Dear St. David's,

On behalf of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, Philadelphia Council, please accept our sincere appreciation for your partnership in holding a Clothing Drive at your location.

Your committed partnership in this outreach is such an importance to the Society and our thousands of local clients. Without the support of business partners such as yourself, needs would certainly go unfulfilled during the long winter months. To the entire "St David's Lutheran Church" Family we thank you for your continued generosity! Together, we are truly, "a worldwide partnership of men and women-aware and involved in the service of the poor."

Thank you for helping us help others!!

Yours in Charity,
Society of St. Vincent de Paul of Philadelphia

Remember in Prayer

With the whole people of God, let us join in prayer for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation. For all who mourn and for those who suffer in body, mind, and spirit, especially:
John Bolch, Art Braun, Fran Brossman, Carol Compton, Ruth Dietrick, Hilda Dornhecker, Betty Evans, Joanne Elwood, Noelle Fisher, Joe Lang, Debra Liss, Edna McArdle, Marie Mills, Hal Rhodes, Elwood Simon, Daniel Todd, Joanne Truman, John Truman, Ken Uhrick, George Walters.

Our homebound

John Bolch – Ivy Hill Rehabilitation Center
Ruth Dietrick – Home
Hilda Dornhecker – Somerton Center
Dolores Dunn – Home
Irene Geiger – Home
Jack Heffner – Home
Gladys Hillis – Son's home
Nancy Houck – St. Joseph Manor
Mildred Lance – Protestant Home
Joe Lang – Home
Katherine Lindenmuth – Home
Edna McArdle – Home
Marie Mills – Home
Lucretia Oldfield – Home
Edna Sheeler – Home
Ann Staib – Son's Home, Phila.
Pauline Thornley – Wood River Village

"St. David's Christ Community Celebrating 58 years"

Anniversaries

- 3 – Richard & Susanne Gouger (13yrs)
- 8 – Norma & Thomas West (45yrs)
- 10 – Dennis & Louise Work (30yrs)
- 11 – Joe & Christine Jennings (47yrs)
- 12 – Ralph & Laura Neubauer (20yrs)
- 16 – Dianne & Brian McDonell (6yrs)
- 22 – Carol & Charles Clarke (45yrs)
- 25 – Rafael & Vinita Munoz (8yrs)
- 25 – Kristin & William Pomerantz (8yrs)
- 29 – Ron and Betty Wood (56yrs)

Birthdays

- 4 – Alma Rhodes
- 5 – Matthew Kaltenbaugh-Jones
- 6 – Linda Blowes
- 6 – Adalei Munoz
- 7 – Robert Vile
- 8 – Mildred Lance
- 8 – Dustin Mackfee
- 10 – Joann Foley
- 10 – Ron Gehring
- 11 – Ian McArdle
- 12 – Jordan Braun
- 12 – Doris Sabec
- 13 – Joe Marcavage, Jr
- 13 – Eileen Uhrick
- 14 – Megan Doherty
- 14 – Jena Gouger
- 15 – Kelly Connelly
- 16 – Madison Thomas
- 18 – Megan Sanford
- 19 – Deborah Andriso
- 20 – Gerald Braun
- 20 – Vernon Kline
- 21 – Bob Timmey, Sr
- 22 – Betty Bolch
- 22 – Ray McArdle
- 22 – Sandra Miller
- 22 – Lauren Oaster
- 24 – Adrienne Bradley
- 24 – Lore Kenney
- 25 – Emily Edwards
- 25 – Matthew Robertson
- 27 – Anna Jordan
- 27 – Harold Rhodes, Jr
- 29 – Debbie Biggard
- 29 – Marge Fries
- 30 – Beth Rapp
- 30 – Sheryl Walto
- 31 – Helen MacKenzie

St. David's Church Picnic

Come join us on Sunday, September 12, 2010 for our Annual Church Picnic at Saint David's after the Rejoice Service at 12 Noon. Hamburgers, hot dogs, bottle water, soda, desserts, fruit, plates, cups, and plasticware will be provided. Suggested items to bring salads, casseroles, and side dishes to be served pot luck.



Rain or Shine. We can picnic in Fellowship Hall. We will also be collecting non-perishable items to be donated to the Feast of Justice Ministries.

If you would like to volunteer please contact Heidi Ibarra or church office at 215-332-7424.

Sunday Church School

Please come join us! Sunday Church School resumes on Sunday, September 19th at 9:30AM in the church. All ages welcome. Bring a friend. Adult bible study also resumes at this time. Any questions contact Laura Ann Hood or Michelle McArdle.



Confirmation Class 2010/11

Those entering 7th grade or older are eligible. Classes start October 17th at 6pm. Call the church office for more information 215-332-2474.

St. David's 60th Anniversary

St. David's 60th Anniversary is fast approaching. We are looking for people to serve on the committee with Gail McClay and Laura Ann Hood. Please contact church office 215-332-7424.

Hillside Cemetery Lots

2 Hillside Cemetery lots for sale. Please call Walter Babb if interested, 215-331-2914.

Spiritual Retreat

The annual Spiritual Retreat at the Luther Inn in Wildwood, NJ is scheduled for Thursday, September 30 through Monday, October 4. Plan now to attend all or part of the weekend. This year's theme is *Close Encounters of the Jesus Kind – Studies in Luke.*

There will be informal Bible studies, praying, singing, dancing, evening campfires, walks on the beach, strolls on the boardwalk, good eating, and much laughter in a Christian atmosphere of spiritual fellowship.

The Luther Inn is located about two blocks from the boardwalk and beach. Its motel-like rooms are each equipped with its own bath. There is a community room complete with kitchen facilities and a large concrete patio. The cost is \$20 per person per night plus the cost of food which participants prepare on the premises.

Register now, or no later than September 26, so that ample food and supplies can be made available. Call the church office at 215-332-7424 or call Carole Wurst at 215-676-8493. See you down the shore!

My Favorite Bible Verse

I received Saints United newsletter and was pleased to see they are sharing their favorite bible verses. I would like to do this here at Saint David's. Please e-mail or send your favorite bible verse to the church office and we will publish it in the newsletter and bulletin.

Pastor Kevin's favorite verse:

"Thy word is a lamp unto my feet and a light to my path." - Psalm 119:105



AUGUST 2010

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Holy Communion 8:15 AM Traditional Worship 9:30 AM Family Worship 11:00 AM Rejoice Service 6:30 PM NA	2 9:00 AM VBS 7:30 PM NA	3 9:00 AM VBS 6:30 PM Center Stage Productions 7:30 PM LightHouse Ministries	4 9:00 AM VBS 7:30 PM Worship	5 9:00 AM VBS 6:30 PM Center Stage Productions 7:00 PM Al Anon	6 9:00 AM VBS	7 10:00 AM – 2PM Drive By Prayer
8 8:15 AM Traditional Worship 9:30 AM Family Worship - HC 11:00 AM Rejoice Service 6:30 PM NA	9 7:30 PM NA	10 6:30 PM Center Stage Productions 7:30 PM LightHouse Ministries	11 7:00 PM Gam Anon Family Groups 7:00 PM Gamblers Anonymous 7:30 PM Worship	12 6:30 PM Center Stage Productions 7:00 PM Al Anon	13	14
15 Holy Communion 8:15 AM Traditional Worship 9:30 AM Family Worship 11:00 AM Rejoice Service 6:30 PM NA	16 7:30 PM NA	17 6:30 PM Center Stage Productions 7:30 PM LightHouse Ministries	18 7:00 PM Gam Anon Family Groups 7:00 PM Gamblers Anonymous 7:30 PM Worship	19 6:30 PM Center Stage Productions 7:00 PM Al Anon	20	21
22 8:15 AM Traditional Worship 9:30 AM Family Worship 11:00 AM Rejoice Service 6:30 PM NA	23 7:30 PM NA	24 6:30 PM Center Stage Productions 7:30 PM LightHouse Ministries	25 7:00 PM Gam Anon Family Groups 7:00 PM Gamblers Anonymous 7:30 PM Worship	26 6:30 PM Center Stage Productions 7:00 PM Al Anon	27	28
29 8:15 AM Traditional Worship 9:30 AM Family Worship 11:00 AM Rejoice Service 6:30 PM NA	30 7:30 PM NA	31 6:30 PM Center Stage Productions 7:30 PM LightHouse Ministries				

Agencies and Outreach supported by the congregation:

Aid For Friends, Holmesburg King's Kitchen
 Babymanna, Crop Walk, Feast Incarnate,
 Clothing Drive, Greater Philadelphia Food Bank,
 Lutheran Charities, Lutheran Disaster Response, Feast of
 Justice Ministries, SEKUCo, Navajo Mission

Organizations that meet at St. David's

Sunday – NA Keys to Freedom, 6:30pm
 POC – 215-817-0933

Monday – NA to Live Again, 7:30pm
 POC - 215-820-1013

Tuesday & Thursday –
 Center Stage Productions, 6:30pm

Tuesday – LightHouse Ministries, 7:30pm
 POC – 215-802-4724

Wednesday – Gamblers Anonymous, 7pm
 POC – 267-269-1191

Wednesday – Gam Anon Family Groups, 7pm
 POC – 215-338-5601

Thursday – Al-Anon, 7:00 pm
 POC – 215-698-6656

Church Council

Marsha Dougherty – 2nd term/ 2010
 Lois Erricson – 1st term/ 2010
 Pat Tomaro – finishing term/ 2010 – Vice-President
 Ken Uhrik – finishing term/ 2010 – Treasurer
 Matthew Cantz – 1st term/ 2011 – Secretary
 Michelle Vincent – 1st term/ 2011
 Gail Kratzner – 1st term/ 2011
 Diana Foley – 1st term/2011
 Michael Perce - 2nd term/ 2012 - President
 Daniel Kolls - 1st term/ 2012
 Kristin Gerenger - 1st term/ 2012
 Heidi Ibarra - 1st term/ 2012
 Pastor Kevin

Roxeen DiFilippio – Financial Secretary

A Congregation of the
 Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Presiding Bishop Mark S. Hanson

Southeastern Pennsylvania Synod www.ministrylink.org

Bishop Claire S. Burkat