

The Coracle

St Davids Cullowhee



January 13, 2019

Called to embody God's love by welcoming everyone who enters
and by empowering all who stay to make a difference in the world.

Calendar

Sat	Jan 12	New Year's Yoga Retreat 8 am-1 pm
Sun	Jan 13	Epiphany 1 Rice & Beans, Annual Meeting Worship Task Force 1:30 pm
Tue	Jan 15	Accessible Mindfulness 10 am
Sun	Jan 20	Epiphany 2 Taizé service 5:30 pm
Fri-Sun	Jan 25-27	Vestry Academy
Sun	Jan 27	Epiphany 3 Soup Supper 5 pm
Mon	Jan 28	Taizé service 5:30 pm
Sun	Feb 3	Epiphany 4 1 st Sunday collection
Tue	Feb 5	Accessible Mindfulness 10 am
Fri-Sat	Feb 8-9	Vestry Retreat
Sun	Feb 10	Epiphany 5
Sun	Feb 17	Epiphany 6 Taizé service 5:30 pm
Tue	Feb 19	Accessible Mindfulness 10 am
Sun	Feb 24	Epiphany 7 Soup Supper 5 pm
Mon	Feb 25	Taizé service 5:30 pm
Fri	Mar 1	St. David's Day

Serving this Sunday

Chalice: Betsy Swift
Reader: Paul Cooper
Music: Lillian Pearson
Coffee: **ALL**
Readings: [Isaiah 43:1-7](#),
[Acts 8:14-17](#), [Psalm 29](#),
[Luke 3:15-17, 21-22](#).

Serving during January

Bread: Wesley Satterwhite
Offering Count: Judy Robinson
Greeter: Jake Jacobson

[Sermon Link](#)

The Gospel

Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, "I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

Annual Meeting This Sunday

Everyone, please bring something to share at Coffee Hour.

Please make every effort to attend this most important meeting. The agenda includes remarks by the Senior Warden, Junior Warden, Treasurer, and Interim Rector, election of new vestry members and delegates to convention, and Task Force updates.



From the Senior Warden

By Betsy Swift

Dear Friends

This Sunday, January 13th, we will gather for our Annual Meeting to review the year just past and to elect three new members to the Vestry. We have five parishioners standing for election. I am grateful to each one for their willingness to serve and proud to belong to a group of such generous people.

According to Church Canons, members who are regularly part of corporate worship, "who work, pray and give for the spread of the Kingdom of God," are qualified to stand for election once they have been confirmed or received by the laying on of hands by a Bishop of the Church. Bishop Jose's position is that as long as a candidate intends to be confirmed/received and is in preparation with the clergy, they are eligible to stand for election and serve on the Vestry. The formality of being received can be arranged when the Bishop is visiting a nearby Parish since he will not visit us again until 2020.

Every member of St. David's who is 16 years of age or older and who has contributed to the support of the parish financially or otherwise during the past six months is eligible to vote. In lieu of a Parish Register and a list of eligible voters, we leave it in your hands: if you love St. David's and consider yourself a member, you are eligible to vote. One of the tasks going forward will be to update our Parish Register.

If you are unable to attend the Annual Meeting, you may vote by absentee ballot. Simply make your selections—remember this year we are electing three (3) to the Vestry—and give them, in a sealed envelope, to the Rector, Senior Warden or Junior Warden prior to the Annual Meeting. This will assure your participation in the first round of the election. (Should a second round be required, only members present will be able to participate for obvious reasons.)

So here we go into an exciting time—the Vestry we elect this year will have as part of their work the directing of our search for a new Rector. I know we will all support them with our love, beginning with our thoughtful and prayerful participation in the Annual Meeting on January 13th.

Betsy

Nominees for Vestry

The following individuals have agreed to be nominated to serve on vestry to fill three vacancies: two for 3-year terms and one for a 2-year term: **Nancie Wilson, June Smith, Jake Jacobson, Gael Graham, and Vance Davidson**. Please email Betsy bswift4252@gmail.com or Maggie magbowles@gmail.com with any additional input you may have. Betsy and Maggie are the vestry members who rotate off; Paul Yanik resigned earlier accounting for the three vacancies to be filled.



Nancie Wilson

I'd like to serve on the vestry at St. David's because I have a vital interest in how the parish will grow, prosper, and serve our community in the coming years. Vestry service is a privilege as the vestry represents the parish membership and makes decisions on behalf of that membership. My four years of service on the Diocesan Executive Council, which is the "vestry for the diocese," will enable me to offer that experience to St. David's.

Gael Graham

I was drawn to St. David's nearly 20 years ago by a personal invitation from Scott Philyaw, and stayed because of Michael's fresh, poetic, and widely eclectic approach to scripture and theology. Over the years, I have worked with children in the Godly Play program, led small groups of enthusiastic singers and recently became a member of the Altar Guild. The reasons I have not yet formally joined the church do not reflect any reluctance on my part to call St. David's my church home. If there is a way to 'fast-track' my formal membership, I would be honored to deepen my commitment to the community of St. David's by serving on the vestry. I have no experience in church governance but would do my best to learn its ways as we move into the next chapter of St. David's history.



UPDATE: Our bishop has approved Gael's eligibility for election to the vestry ahead of her official Reception as a member at St David's as Gael was willing to go to Asheville ahead of our Annual Meeting for Anointing/Reception by the bishop, has stated her intent to be Received, and prepared for Reception in the Inquirers Class Valori+ conducted last year.

The Bishop's Statement

My position on this issue is that as long as the candidate wants to be confirmed/received and is in preparation by the clergy, I don't have a problem with them standing for election. We then can work on getting her received at one of my visitations close by to you all.

June Smith



As most of you know, I have spent the last two years writing and preparing for publication a history of St. David's-in-the-Valley. (The last three months have caused progress to stall, but it really is almost ready!) My 40-plus years as a member here and all the research I did for the book have given me a unique window into our past and a rich hope for our future under a new priest. I would very much like to be a part of that future as a vital member of St. David's community and as a dedicated member of the vestry.

As a member in good standing of St. David's, I have pledged for the budget each year and have financially supported all our extra endeavors, from the St. David's Festival Auction to the new parish hall. I am a long-standing member of St. Clare's Altar Guild, have represented St. David's at the diocesan convention multiple times, taught Sunday school in the 1970s, have given reflections for Advent and other times as well as being a lector, was on both the Fund Raising and Construction Committee for the new parish hall, and have served on the vestry under the Rev. Dr. Heber Peacock and the Rev. Michael Hudson, being senior warden in 1991, 1997 and 1998. Not much has happened at St. David's in modern times that I have not been a dedicated participant in. I am at a unique time in my personal life. I feel that my becoming a member of the vestry will be good for St. David's and for manifesting God's love here, as well as for myself.

Vance Davidson

Kathy and I have been married for 37 years. We have one son and two grandsons. We have been members of St. David's for over seventeen years and have been Episcopalian for almost forty-two years. I am a retired trust banker and lawyer. I served for over eleven years as Development Director and Deputy Director of Region A Partnership for Children.

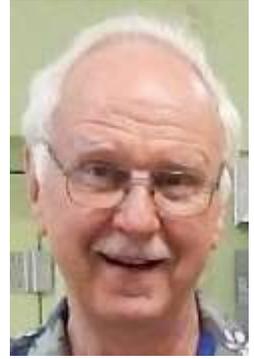
At St David's I have served as Stewardship Chair for four years and as a member of the budget and finance committee for sixteen years. I also served a previous term on Vestry at St. David's beginning in 2002. Kathy and I together coordinated 21 wine tasting fundraisers at St. David's. More recently, I served as project manager for second floor parish hall completion. I have served as a chalcist and lay reader at St. David's for 17 years.



Jake Jacobson

Faye and I started attending the Episcopal church a few years after we married, and I was baptized in my late 20's at St. Francis Episcopal church in Macon, Georgia at the same time as our only child, Chris, was baptized. When Chris came out to us as a gay man during his college years, we quickly realized that we had become members by proxy of a minority group in our society. Not long after that, we started attending a PFLAG group (Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays), and then formed a PFLAG chapter in Macon.

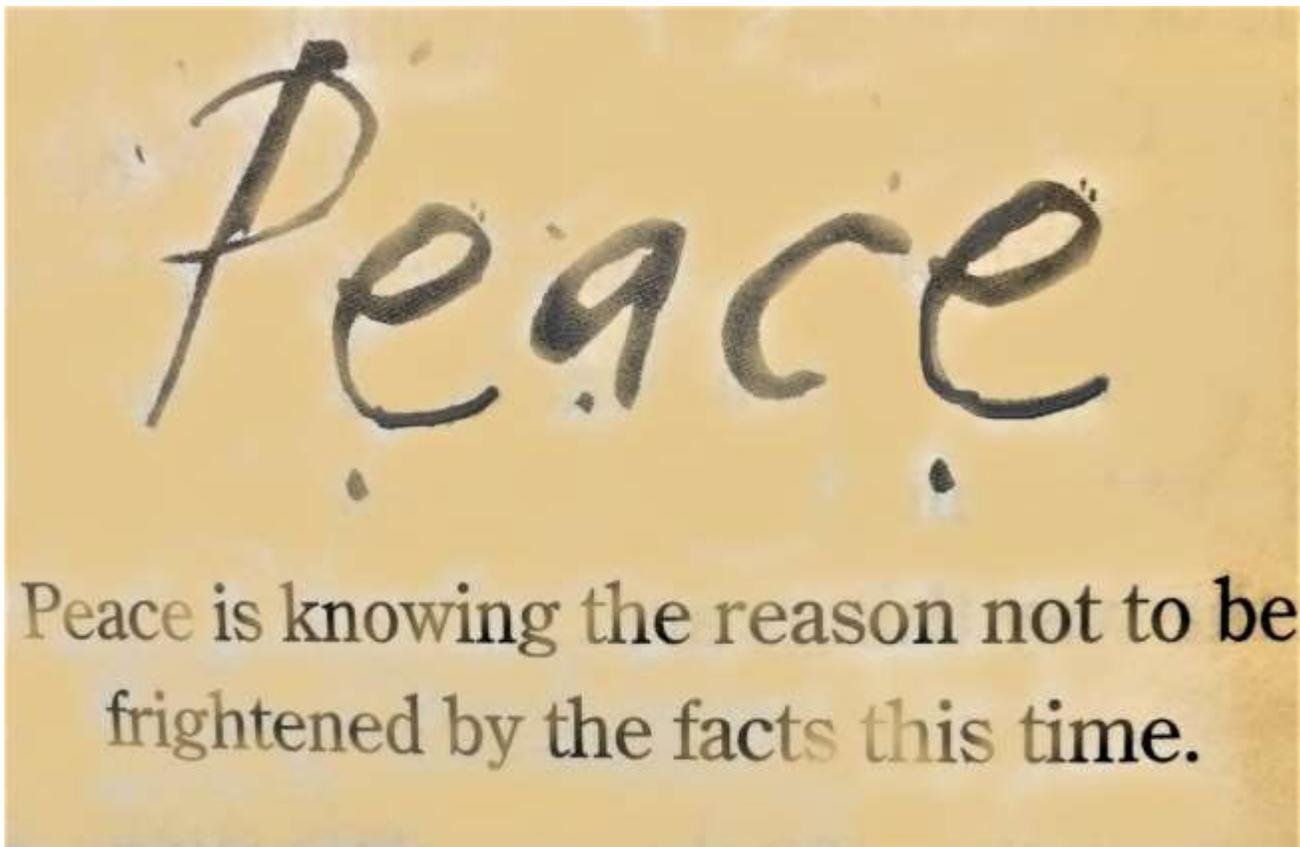
We have attended St. David's for about ten years now, and I knew the first time we walked up the steps and saw the "Safe Zone" triangular sticker on the door that I had found my church home. I have served once before on St. David's vestry and served as senior warden during that time. I currently serve on the cemetery committee and am the "convener"/calendar scheduler for our group of greeters. St. David's is an amazing parish and family group, and I know that we have a wonderful future ahead. If I am elected to the vestry, it will be an honor to serve.



Peace

By The Rev. Dr. Valori Mulvey Sherer

Thanks to some parishioners who gifted me this book recently, here is a tidbit from it, to be held "loosely" as the author recommends in the introduction 😊



Thanks to Sandy for the inspirational book from which it came: "10 Second Sermons and even quicker illustrations" by Milton James Darton (Longman, and Todd, Ltd.), 2011, 54.

Valori+

An Invitation to Join



THE GOOD BOOK CLUB

The Good Book Club is an invitation to all Episcopalians to join in reading Saint Paul's Letter to the Romans during Epiphany 2019. Episcopalians will start reading Romans on January 7th, 2019 and read a section every day (except Sundays) through the Epiphany season. In surveys taken before and after the first Good Book Club project in 2018 (reading the Gospel of Luke and the Book of Acts), participants reported growth in their understanding of scripture and a deepening of their prayer life. Perhaps most significantly, the percentage of people who reported reading the Bible on a daily basis increased to 73 percent at the end of the first Good Book Club reading, from 45 percent when it began.

The two links below give detail and a message from the Presiding Bishop:

<http://www.goodbookclub.org/>

[Press Release from Episcopal News Service](#)

St Clare's Altar Guild of St David's Episcopal Church

By Judy Robinson

Our altar guild invites you to join if you are not a member. We have lost several members this past year and could use some help on these committees: Flowers (provided throughout the year weekly by altar guild members; you can bring from your garden or even roadside); Linens (washing and ironing of linens used weekly in our services); Communion Altar prep (set up and break down of the altar every Sunday); Bread (bake bread for Communion; we have a great recipe); Task Reminder (we need someone to email whoever is signed up at the start of each month). We usually sign up by the month, but you can help by the week if that is what works for you. Currently, Muff Lyons and Faye Jacobson are our co-chairs. If you are interested or want to know more details, please contact Judy Robinson (task calendar organizer) at judyleroyrobinson@gmail.com. We appreciate your considering this!

Charlie's Challenge-A Fundraiser for Neighbors In Need

Save the Date
Jackson Neighbors in Need
Charlie's Challenge
Saturday, January 26, 2019
6:00pm
First Baptist Mission &
Fellowship Hall
Main Street Sylva
Dinner Provided by Harrah's Cherokee Casino Resort
Entertainment Provided by Summer Brooke & The Mountain Faith Band

Please contact Judy Annis jannis@dnet.net to reserve your spot at this special event. Judy will arrange for folks from St. David's to sit together.

From the Vestry

At its December meeting, your vestry made a decision to use funds from the first Sunday loose plate collections, soup suppers, and ad hoc fundraisers to support the following list of community organizations:

January–Circles of Hope

February–Clean Slate

March–Community Table

April–MainSpring Land Trust

May–General (Monitor progress and plan fundraising event to add support).

June, July, August–no soup suppers; First Sunday loose plate collection will go to outreach with a school supply drive suggested for August.

September–Vecinos

October–Midwives of Haiti

November–General (Monitor progress and plan fundraising event to add support. This would be a possible time for a “Founders Day” homecoming event in cooperation with Western Carolina University.)

December–No soup supper; First Sunday loose plate collection goes to Outreach in general.

Vestry also approved the cemetery applications for the Rev. Michael Hudson and Barbara Hardie, waiving the fee and agreed to purchase 11 new hymnals from Church Publishing for \$18.50 each with free shipping. Vestry also approved moving the cemetery and altar guild funds into church accounts to bring finances into compliance with church canons.

Parish News & Notes

Birthdays

Jan 18 **Doug Hanks**

Jan 20 **Chris Wilcox, Elliot Reisinger**

Anniversary

Jan 17 **Karen & Harry Brown**

Prayers for Ann Suggs as she continues to deal with serious infection issues.

If you are wondering why June Smith is not present at the Annual Parish Meeting, it's because she is enjoying a trip to Puerto Rico with her college friend Glenda Bunce and her daughter Courtney.





St. David's 2018 vestry: Judy Robinson, Muff Lyons (Jr. Warden), Interim Rector Valori+ Sherer, Betsy Swift (Sr. Warden), Maggie Bowles, and Sandy Frazier.

Betsy Swift and Maggie Bowles rotate off vestry.



Diocesan Youth Events

90's Skate Party

February 3, 2019

2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Smokey Mountain Skyway, Waynesville, NC

Join us for a 90's themed skate party. Come dressed in your best 90's outfit! Cost and registration information will be available in January.



Save the Dates

High School Spring Retreat

March 1-3, 2019

Valle Crucis Conference Center

Registration will open in January.

Dismantling Racism Retreat

April 5-7, 2019

High School Youth Only

Retreat will be located in the Asheville area but the exact location is TBD. Registration will open in February.

Glory Ridge Camping & Service Retreat

May 4-5, 2019

[Glory Ridge Camp](#)

Middle School Youth Only

Registration will open in February.

**Vestry Stewardship Covenant
St. David's Episcopal Church
2018**

We believe that our community is called upon to fully trust in God's promise to provide. Sometimes, however, we are fearful that it won't happen due to our lack of trust, our fear, and our need to control.

We commit to remember who we are in God and for the world, near and far: beloved servants. We commit to make financial decisions remembering that God provides for us, sometimes in surprising ways, by keeping the Gospel promise of abundance as our guide and touchstone, and by constantly evaluating this new way of thinking.

We invite everyone to join the vestry in reflecting on the grace and good luck that pervade our lives which leads us to a natural and comfortable means of sharing the abundance with which we have been blessed.

Meditation Opportunities at St. David's

Accessible Mindfulness: 1st and 3rd Tuesdays, 10-11:15 am. This is especially geared for those new to mindfulness meditation.

Other Meditation Opportunities

WCU Mindfulness and Meditation: Thursdays at 4 pm 224 Bird Building. For details, call 227-7469 and ask for Michelle. To view a flyer, [please click here.](#)

Mindfulness Meditation: 9:15 am on Thursdays at Sylva Yoga above Lulu's on Main Street in downtown Sylva. Meditation gives students the opportunity to focus on the deep interconnection between mind and body, which can be experienced directly by practice in mindfulness.

Virtual Closet

If you need medical-related equipment or have something you can offer, contact Claire Marsh: clairemrsh@gmail.com She keeps a list of who has what to facilitate sharing.

Box Tops for Education

There is a basket under the white board in the Parish Hall where you can place any of these box tops you may have. This is an ongoing project for our children.

Regular Activities	Mondays 10:30 am 4 th Mondays 5:30 pm 1 st & 3 rd Tuesdays Last Sundays 5-7 pm Sept-Apr	Cullowhee Men's Group Taizé Service Accessible Mindfulness Soup/Bread Community Supper
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St. David's Links and Contact Information:

Website: stdavidscullowhee.org

[Lectionary Page 2019](#)

Newsletter editor: Maggie Bowles: magbowles@gmail.com

Church phone # and email: 828-331-1427

stdavidscullowhee@gmail.com

Mailing address: PO Box 152, Cullowhee, NC 28723

Diocesan Links:

[Diocese of Western North Carolina](#)

The Rt. Rev. José A. McLoughlin, Bishop

[Sign up for Diocesan Newsletter](#)

[Camp Henry Facebook page](#)

www.lakelogan.org

St. David's Vestry Members:

Betsy Swift, Senior Warden

Muff Lyons, Junior Warden

Maggie Bowles

Sandy Frazier—Judy Robinson