

The Coracle

St Davids Cullowhee



January 3, 2021

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

A Message from Mother Gaelyn

Dear friends,

I was completely surprised and humbled by your generous Christmas gift of the Rector's Purse. My first six months at St. David's have shown me how generous, creative, and kind-hearted the people of St. David's are, all of which allowed such a gift. As we head into 2021, I know we have many hopes and dreams for our future together as we imagine and create the kingdom of God in our corner of the world; I am looking forward to us doing that work together.

May this season of peace bring you all joy and peace. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

In gratitude,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Mother Gaelyn".

News from the Vestry

by Jessica Philyaw, Senior Warden

Schedule change for the Annual Meeting: I had mistakenly provided a date for our Annual Meeting as next Sunday, but the **CORRECT DATE** is **Sunday, January 24th**. The time will be immediately after worship, and the meeting will be conducted online, via Zoom. The invitation and link will be provided closer to the date, as will various documents for everyone to read in advance of the meeting.

The main purposes of the Annual Meeting are: to report on parish news and activities over the course of the previous year, elect new vestry members for open seats, and present the proposed budget for 2021. It is an excellent time to ask questions and learn how the parish works as an organization. Conducting the meeting on Zoom will of course be a new wrinkle for us to iron out, but that is the way we can include everyone (with a phone-in option for anyone with connectivity problems) while also maintaining necessary social distancing for safety. Look for more detailed information to come via email (and here in the Coracle) in the coming weeks.

Bishop's Class: Episcopal 101

Online classes, Tuesdays at 7 pm starting January 12th for five weeks

Click [HERE](#) to sign up

Offered in the season of Epiphany, Bishop José will lead five sessions on the basics on what Episcopalians believe, how we pray, our history (not just the good highlights but also harder truths we don't like to talk about), how we read the Bible, and how we are organized. All are welcome - no matter how long or short a time you've called the Episcopal Church home - or if you aren't sure yet if it feels like home. This class is also a great opportunity to prepare people for Confirmation.

Service Information

Sunday, 1/3/2021 at 11 am

[Facebook Live](#)

[Bulletin](#)

[Coffee Hour Zoom Link](#)

Lector: June Smith

Prayers: Muff Lyons

Organist: Lillian Pearson

Email prayer requests to [Muff Lyons](#)

[Facebook Link for Past Services](#)

Wednesday Services

Morning Prayer 9:30 am on [Zoom](#)

No Internet or Smartphone?

Dial +1 929 205 6099 and enter meeting ID number 857 5147 5913.

Additional Information

Jan 3 Liturgy of the Word 11 am [Facebook Live](#)

Jan 24 Parish Annual Meeting

Episcopal Campus Ministry WCU

Sign-up for Wednesday Walks with WCU campus missionary Kelsey Davis:

1:1 outdoor walk around campus, no strings attached. Anyone is welcome.

[Walk sign up](#)



Beans & Rice

Please remember our ongoing collection of rice and especially beans for our Vecinos families and farm workers. Donations may be left in the big containers inside the church doors at any time.



To meet with the rector for conversation or prayer, email her at rector@stdavidscullowhee.org.

Guardian ad Litem Volunteers Needed

The Guardian ad Litem program needs your help! Amidst the COVID-19 pandemic, cases of abuse and neglect among children and adolescents across the state have increased. A Guardian ad Litem (GAL) is a court-appointed volunteer who advocates for abused and neglected children by representing their best interests in court. The program requires 30 hours of training, spread over a few weeks, as well as a background check and screening interview. During COVID-19, all in-person visits are suspended, and GAL volunteers are conducting virtual visits with children. To find out more about the program and begin a volunteer application go to volunteerforqa.org. You may also call the Haywood County Guardian ad Litem office at (828) 454-6513 if you have additional questions. Thank you for your willingness to serve children in need in our community!

From the December 31st, 2020 issue of *The Sylva Herald*:



Guest Columnist
Judy Annis

Charlie's Challenge looks different, but good work is the same

The Jackson Neighbors In Need annual fundraising dinner, Charlie's Challenge, will have a different approach this year.

Fundraising efforts will be directed to jackson-neighborsinneed.org for a Jan. 30 raffle instead of our usual dinner prepared by Chef Randy. Harrah's Cherokee Casino and Resort continues to sponsor

this year's event with a monetary gift and a raffle item – a Yeti Cooler and two Yeti drink cups.

Our local merchants have also supported us again by giving us wonderful items for the raffle. We are so grateful for all of the support we receive from our community. Visit the JNIN website to get the information you need to donate and participate in the raffle. There are great pictures and information about each of the raffle items as well as a video by Chef Randy and a welcome message from the family of the late Charlie McConnell, for whom the event is named.

The one constant in all that is so different this year is that our neighbors in Jackson County still need our help to stay warm during the cold winter months. To date we have



DONATED PHOTO

Left to right, Sharon Montague, Shelly Brown and Chef Randy of Harrah's present a check to Judy Annis and Ruth McConnell of Jackson Neighbors in Need.

helped almost as many people as we did in all of last year's heating season. We have given heaters to folks, paid power bills to prevent cutoffs, and our blanket drive is currently in progress. Remember that we also fund small emergencies such as car batteries/tires, a microwave oven, gravel for a cancer patient's driveway so he/she could get to treatments and many other emergency needs. All of our funds are paid directly to the merchant.

Jackson Neighbors In Need seeks to work and partner with other community agencies in order to help as many people as possible. Sometimes one agency can give a certain amount to help, and we will join with them to fund the full amount of a given request. We are there when a person does not qualify for help from other agencies or when they have utilized all eligibility with that agency.

To help this year visit our website to donate or you may send a check to Mountain Projects, 25 Schulman St., Sylva, NC 28779 so we may once again help our neighbors. We have had such a loyal group of supporters during the past 12 years and we are most appreciative of their support. We hope we can count on everyone this year.

Judy Annis is chair, Jackson Neighbors In Need.

Parish News & Notes

Birthday

Jan 10 **Heidi Dinkelmeyer**

Anniversary

Jan 4 **Jane & Andy Coburn**

St. David's Links and Contact Information:

Website: stdavidscullowhee.org

St. D's Public Facebook Page

St. D's Private Group Forum

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Diocese of W. North Carolina

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