

The Coracle

St Davids Cullowhee



December 15, 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

Sun	Dec 15	Advent 3, Holy Eucharist 11 am
Wed	Dec 18	Advent Wednesday Evening Service 5:30 pm
Thu	Dec 19	Accessible Mindfulness 10 am
Sun	Dec 22	Advent 4, Holy Eucharist 11 am
Tue	Dec 24	Lessons & Carols 5:30 pm, Readers: June Smith, Margot Wilcox, Gracia Slater, Paul Cooper Torches: Abel & Angus Despeaux
Wed	Dec 25	Christmas Day, Holy Eucharist 11 am
Sun	Dec 29	Christmas 1 Holy Eucharist 11 am
Thu	Jan 2	Accessible Mindfulness 10 am
Sun	Jan 5	Christmas 2, Holy Eucharist 11 am
Sun	Jan 12	Epiphany 1, Holy Eucharist 11 am
Mon	Jan 13	Vestry Meeting 5:30 pm
Thu	Jan 16	Accessible Mindfulness 10 am
Sun	Jan 19	Epiphany 2, Holy Eucharist 11 am, Annual Parish Meeting
Sun	Jan 26	Epiphany 3, Holy Eucharist 11 am, Soup Supper, 5 pm

[Sermon Link](#)

[Parish Profile 2019](#)

Serving this Sunday

Chalice:

Reader:

Music: Savannah Bennett

Anthem: *Gabriel's Message*

Coffee: Gael Graham

Readings: [Isaiah 35:1-10](#), [James 5:7-10](#), [Matthew 11:2-11](#),
[Canticle 15](#)

Wednesday Advent Services

Officiant: June Smith

Candles: Muff Lyons

Serving during December

Flowers: Judy Robinson

Muff Lyons Dec 25

Linen: Gerlinde Lindy

Communion: Gracia Slater &
Margot Wilcox

Bread: John Slater

Greeter: George Rector &
Joan Byrd

St. David's Greening

December 22nd following Sunday Service

For this year we are going back to our old tradition of greening following the church service. Russian Tea and cookies will be provided. Bring a sandwich, clippers, and any greens you might have that would be suitable for wreath making.

Everyone is welcome, and if you haven't done it before you will find it so rewarding. After all the windows are decorated and the wreathes are hung, we go and sit quietly in the sanctuary. The smell of fir and cedar and the beauty of the greenery creations is magic.



Christmas Poinsettias Donations to the Altar Guild

The Altar Guild purchases poinsettias for Christmas. If you would like to contribute, please write a check to St. David's Altar Guild with Christmas flowers on the memo line. There will be an insert in the Christmas Eve and Christmas Day bulletin recognizing those who donate and the name of anyone you might like to honor, give thanks for, or recognize. Place your checks in the alms basin or hand them to Margot Wilcox.



From the Vestry

Exciting News about Our Roof Repair

We are pleased as punch to let you know that the Episcopal Foundation has awarded us a grant of \$20,000 towards our roof repair! That is the maximum grant they are able to give, and we are grateful and feel supported. We collected \$5,100 from parish roof pledges; and we will receive approximately \$800 from the All Saints Memorial grant (a few more contributions for that award are drifting in, but they will send us a check before Christmas); the Vestry has agreed to use \$12,000 of our Capital Reserve Fund; and we now have \$20,000 from the previously mentioned Foundation grant. That leaves us \$11,000 short for the total cost of the roof repair. The Vestry will complete a loan application with the Diocese for that amount and submit it in the first week of January. We will then be on the agenda for the February 4th meeting of the Diocesan Fiscal Ministries Committee, which is responsible for granting loans. We will thus be ready to pay for the roof as Litespeed gets to work this Spring.

The Financial Portion of the Stewardship for the Entirety of Our Lives

Forty pledges have been received for 2020, totaling \$109,440. Comparing to 2019, this is 2 fewer pledges but \$8,150 more in total pledge amount. Thank you all for your thoughtful generosity!

Vestry Elections

We are pleased to announce that we have two excellent candidates running for Vestry in January: Jessica Philyaw and Doug Hanks. The elections will take place on January 19th at our Annual Meeting. If anyone else is interested in running, please let the nominating committee (Muff Lyons and Judy Robinson) or Valori+ know. Candidates will be asked to submit a brief written summary of their interest in serving on the Vestry which will run in the Coracle in early January. Informationally, anyone elected to the Vestry for 2020 will be expected to participate in the Vestry retreat on Saturday, February 15th from 9 am-4pm at the church.

Delegates for the November 2020 Annual Convention

We are seeking two delegates and two alternates for the Diocesan Convention in November, 2020. We would like to confirm these delegates at our Annual Meeting on January 19th. Please let Valori+ know if you can serve as a delegate. The Convention will be in Shelby, NC, with a one-night stay. Our parish will cover mileage for travel and overnight accommodations for delegates.

Altar Guild News

The 2020 calendar of task assignments is in the process of being completed by member Judy Robinson. If you are not a member of the Guild, we would love to have you join us!! All are welcome. We need folks to please consider helping with tasks as a few are doing most of the work. You can help on a monthly basis with laying the altar for communion, washing linens, baking communion bread, flower arrangements, and hospitality. For your calendar: The Altar Guild plans to hold our fun and frolic annual brunch in February. More info to come.

St. David's Vestry

Senior Warden, Judy Robinson

Sandy Frazier

Vance Davidson

Steve Steinbrueck, Treasurer, is ex-officio to the vestry.

Junior Warden, Muff Lyons

Gael Graham

Jake Jacobson

From the Interim Rector

By The Rev. Valori Mulvey Sherer

Let us pray...

...for our students taking exams and preparing for Christmas break
...for all who travel this busy season
...for any who are lonely and those who are alone by choice
...for any who are hungry, forgotten, or abused
...for any whose hearts are infected by hate or malice
...for any who feel pressured to spend money they don't have on gifts
...for any who are rejected by loved ones
...for us who bear the light of Christ, that any who need it may be noticed by us and given it freely, warmly, and without judgment.

Come, Holy Spirit of love. Come to us and bring us your peace. Rest in us that we may be tranquil. Speak to us as each heart needs to hear. Reveal to us things hidden and things longed for. Rejoice in us that we may praise and be glad. Pray in us that we may be at one with you and with each other. Refresh and renew us from your living springs of water. Dwell in us now and always. Amen.



Are these your beads?

Last Sunday after church I found these beads on the windshield of my car. Do they belong to you? Contact me and I'll return them to you.

Parish Administrator

Good News! We have a new Parish Administrator! Meet Carol Payton. Carol is a retired educator who lives in the area, attends the Methodist Church in Sylva and, more recently, our book study at St. David's. Carol will begin as our Parish Administrator on Tuesday, December 18th. Having Carol in place and comfortable with her duties will make for a smooth transition for the rector who is eventually called to serve St. David's. We'll send out Carol's contact information next week so you can welcome her with the famous St. David's hospitality!

Valori +

Jubilate Deo Revived



The Jubilate Deo small choir is reuniting again for 2020! All who love singing are welcome to join this group. We will meet every four (4) months for a 2-hour session at which we will practice four (4) songs. On the Sundays we sing we'll gather at 10:15 to review the song for that day. We will usually sing on the last Sunday of the month. The first practice will be on Sunday, January 5th at 3 pm at the home of Rosa Reily. Please contact Rosa at reily2@frontier.com or 828-293-9358 for more information and to express interest. Make a joyful noise unto the Lord! (Psalm 100)



Rector Search

Update from the Discernment Committee

By Harry Brown

After several months of work, the Discernment Committee has good news to report. The job announcement went out on the Office of Transitional Ministry (OTM) website on November 18th. This is the website where all Episcopal priests who are potentially searching for a new position go to look for openings. There has also been an advertisement with *The Episcopal News Service* for the rector position at St. David's; this advertisement is currently on the front page.

The Discernment Committee met December 8th and 11th to craft questions for the initial candidate interviews. We will be meeting again on December 20th to finalize this so that hopefully we can begin interviewing candidates in January by videoconference. Those that make it through the initial selection process (which may include a second video interview) will be visited incognito at their current church in order to observe their liturgical and preaching skills. Finalists will then be interviewed here by the Vestry.

At our meeting on December 11th, Canon Augusta Anderson was present to assist us. She also informed us that there were already solid applicants for the position. This is very encouraging. At her recommendation we have decided to extend the application period by 2 weeks due to the original deadline falling right around Christmas.

The Discernment Committee very much appreciates the input, encouragement, and prayers of everyone at St. David's!

Gift bags were presented Sunday to students to help them get through finals. Also pictured are the new nametags. Everyone is invited to use the colored markers to personalize their nametag.



Parish News & Notes

Birthdays

- Dec 17 **Michael Hudson, Judy Robinson**
- Dec 18 **Nan Watkins**
- Dec 20 **Henry Hanks**

Anniversaries

- Dec 17 **Marcus & Caroline Goodkind**
- Dec 19 **Paul & Melba Cooper**



On Thanksgiving morning Boot, Henry, Mary Michael, and Doug Hanks, along with Doug's sister, niece, and her husband all participated in the Sevier County High School Smoky Bear Turkey Chase. Henry came in 1st place in his age group. Afterwards they celebrated with other family members at the resort with flap jacks and hash browns and took in the Thanksgiving Day Parade.

Virtual Closet

If you need medical-related equipment or have something you can offer, contact [Nancie Wilson](#). 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.

2019 Outreach Support

From 1 st Sunday's loose plate offering and Soup Suppers			
Jan	Circles of Hope	Aug	School Supplies drive
Feb	Clean Slate	Sep	Vecinos
Mar	Community Table	Oct	Midwives of Haiti
Apr	Mainspring Conservation Trust	Nov	to be determined
May	(general)	Dec	(general)
May-Jun-Jul-Aug-no Soup Suppers (general outreach)			

Regular Activities

2 nd Sundays	Rice & Beans Ministry
Last Sundays 5-7 pm Sept-Apr	Soup/Bread Community Supper
Mondays 10:30 am	Cullowhee Men's Group 10:30 am
2 nd Mondays	Vestry Meeting 5:30 pm
1 st & 3 rd Thursdays	Accessible Mindfulness 10 am

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:

Judy Robinson, Senior Warden

Muff Lyons, Junior Warden

Sandy Frazier—Gael Graham

Vance Davidson—Jake Jacobson

Vestry Stewardship Covenant 2019

St. David's Episcopal Church

We believe that God loves us unconditionally and desires that we love one another without exception; that God wants us to use the gifts we've been given including the gifts of listening, discerning, and doing. We trust in God's abundance and can respond in generosity and love by serving our community and creation in ways we never thought possible.

We commit to fostering a broad vision of stewardship as encompassing our physical church, our congregation, the community that surrounds us, and all of creation.

We invite the St. David's family to explore how we can embody God's love and promise of abundance in our process, practice, and reflection.