

# The Coracle

St Davids Cullowhee



December 27 2020

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 Mtr. Gaelyn

Dear friends,

Hope is on the horizon. Some of us have already received the Covid-19 vaccination and many more of us are waiting in anticipation for our day. We are waiting for so many things that we have longed for as we wait for our turn to receive the vaccination: hugs, dining in a restaurant, singing, live music, and worshipping in church with a full congregation. Though it is the season of Christmas, we are still waiting. Waiting for it to be safe for us to all return to all the things we love.

Sadly, while we wait our infection rate numbers have continued to increase across our diocese. For this reason, Bishop José has suspended in-person worship beginning Sunday, December 27<sup>th</sup>, and continuing through the month of January. For St. David's, this means we will continue to live-stream the Sunday service from the church at 11:00 to Facebook live. We are allowed to have 10 or fewer people in the church to live-stream the service. This does mean we will return to Sunday mornings being Liturgy of the Word, as there will be no congregation present for Eucharist. We will also have to suspend our Wednesday Eucharist until further notice. After taking the coming week off, Wednesday Morning Prayer will continue on Zoom.

While this is not quite the Christmas Greeting we were all hoping for, there is hope on the horizon. We will get through this and God is with us every step of the way.

Peace and blessings,

Mtr. Gaelyn

### Service Information

**Sunday, 12/27/2020 at 11 am**

The Rev. H. William Walker, Jr.

will be giving the sermon.

[Facebook Live](#)

[Bulletin](#)

[Coffee Hour Zoom Link](#)

Lector: George Rector

Prayers: Muff Lyons

Organist: Lillian Pearson

Bread: Judy Robinson

Email prayer requests to [Muff Lyons](#)

[Facebook Link for Past Services](#)

### Wednesday Services

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

(No service 12/30)

### No Internet or Smartphone?

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

### Additional Information

Dec 27 Liturgy of the Word 11 am [Facebook Live](#)

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

Jan 10 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](mailto:rector@stdavidscullowhee.org).

## **Vestry News**

St. David's annual meeting will be held on Sunday, January 10<sup>th</sup>; details will be published here prior to the meeting. Karen Brown and George Rector have been nominated to serve on vestry for three-year terms. Additional nominations can be made during the Annual Meeting in advance of voting. Below are brief biographical statements from each of them.

### **Karen Brown**

I was raised in the Lutheran Church and spent my early years in Texas, France, England, and Connecticut. Between the ages of 18 and 26 or so, I was not a member of any church but began attending an Episcopal church regularly in 1985 when Harry and I moved to Charleston, SC and were married there in 1987.

After leaving Charleston, we spent some time traveling in Europe, working at a mission hospital in Cameroon, and thru hiking the AT. We then moved to Rosebud, SD to work for the Indian Health Service. While there our first child was born.

In November 1992, we moved to Webster with our 1 ½ year old daughter and soon afterwards began attending St. David's. During our time there we added 3 more children to our family. I helped to establish a Godly Play program for the children of the congregation and served on the Altar Guild committee. I was also fortunate to be able to go on two pilgrimages run by Father Michael to Great Britain.

In 2008 we moved to Nashville and for the eight years we lived there attended Christ Church Cathedral in downtown Nashville. I was a member of the cathedral book club and also completed the four-year EfM program. After Harry's retirement in early 2016, I was able to fulfill a long-time dream of mine by walking the Camino de Santiago.

After returning we packed up and moved back to WNC—this time to Waynesville—and decided to return to St David's. Since our return I have been a member of the Wine Tasting fundraiser committee and the Altar Guild. I look forward to continuing my ministry as a member of the vestry if elected.

### **George Rector**

Joan and I first attended services at St. David's in November 2015. That visit coincided with the annual creation cycle which struck an immediate chord for us, given our concern for the planet and our responsibilities to be good stewards of the environment. We both left services that morning with a sense of amazement that a church would openly advocate as part of its ministry that we all have a duty to respect and safeguard God's creation. The warm and open welcome we received that day and have continued to receive on every day since, along with the Episcopal Church's openness to inquiry as a means of more closely approaching God, has been all the incentive we needed to make St. David's our spiritual home. Our connection to this community has deepened and enriched our lives, helping us to be more fully open to the divine mysteries that transcend limited human understanding. Joan and I became official card-carrying Episcopalians on August 7<sup>th</sup>, 2018 when we were confirmed by Bishop José on his visit to Cullowhee.

As a member of St. David's, I have served on the Discernment Committee, whose work led to Mtr. Gaelyn+ answering the call to lead this congregation. I think it would be fair to say that all the members of that committee took a collective gulp when the weight and enormity of our duties became apparent. But all of us worked together for over a year, determined to not be discouraged even when the job seemed as if it would stretch beyond the horizon. Like my fellow committee members, I believe in honoring a commitment and promise to bring this same determination to the vestry, should I be elected to serve.

I also participate in the life of the church by serving during Sunday services as crucifer, lector, and chalice and regard these responsibilities as a way to give back to a body of believers that has given so much to me. Alongside Joan, I have worked on the grounds surrounding the church and the cemetery.

There are members of St. David's who understand the work and function of the vestry far better than I do. Serving in this position would be a new role for me, but it is one in which I promise to give my best efforts. As a vestry member I would do all I can to be worthy of your trust.

Hope is Greening the Church Despite the Weather Forecast



# Parish News & Notes

## Birthdays

Dec 28 **Boot Hanks**  
Dec 30 **Brad Ulrich**  
Jan 1 **Dottie Brunette, Hank Sharp**

## Anniversary

Dec 27 **Margot & Tom Wilcox**



Special thanks to Heidi Dinkelmeyer for masking up and helping with the greening.

### St. David's Links and Contact Information:

Website: [stdavidscullowhee.org](http://stdavidscullowhee.org)

St. D's Public Facebook Page

St. D's Private Group Forum

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Newsletter

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Diocese of W. North Carolina

The Rt. Rev. José A. McLoughlin, Bishop