

The Coracle

St Davids Cullowhee



December 5, 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.

Creation Banner Refurbish

By June Smith

When our beloved Creation banner was taken down to have the sanctuary painted, we discovered that a few of the pieces on the banner needed some TLC. To give our banner the care it deserves, we have scheduled a banner-repair afternoon for Friday, December 3rd, beginning at 1 pm. Neal Howard, our resident fiber artist and weaver of many of our altar hangings, has volunteered to lead our efforts. Margot and I would like to invite anyone who is interested in helping to join us to make a few repairs.

The banner was created during "The Festival of St. Hildegard: *Celebrating Spirit and Creativity* in Cullowhee, NC," held in September 1997, at St. David's. The entire Cullowhee community was invited to participate. As part of the festival, Elizabeth Worley led the making of the Creation banner. After Elizabeth read the creation story from Genesis, participants prayerfully self-selected one of seven groups to be in to illustrate one day of creation. Spirit and creativity filled the room as the banner came into being. We will be happy to see it rehung in its refreshed state!



Upcoming Events

**Wednesdays, December 8th
and 15th**

Advent Service of Light at 5:30 (in the church and on Facebook Live) followed by a shared meal with Episcopal Campus Ministry. ECM meets from 7-8 after the meal.

Friday, December 3rd

Refurbish Creation Cycle Banner at 1 pm in the *Gathering Place*

Wednesday, December 22nd

Advent Service of Light at 5:30 (in the church and on Facebook Live)

Thursday, December 23rd

Greening of the Church and Brunch at 10 am

Friday, December 24th

Carols and Cider in the *Gathering Place* from 3:30-3:50 followed at 4 pm by a Candlelight Christmas Eve service of Holy Eucharist

Sunday, December 26th

First Sunday of Christmas, Service of Lessons and Carols at 11 am

Joy to the World!

Please join us for a Christmas Carol sing-along time before the 4 pm Christmas Eve service. Meet from 3:30-3:50 in the *Gathering Place* for Cider and Carols around the piano. The Candlelight Christmas Eve service will follow in the church at 4 pm. (This wasn't included on the Advent booklets.) We will open the doors and wear masks, so plan to dress appropriately for the prevailing weather.

Dining With the Students Following Wednesday Advent Services

Wednesday Advent Services continue at 5:30 pm on December 8th, 15th, and 22nd. Following the service, we will have a meal with the Western students who are a part of our ECM group. It will be a wonderful opportunity to get to know them and let them get to know us. On December 22nd, the students will be on break, so no meal that evening, but the Advent Service will still take place at 5:30.

We are initially planning for 24 but are asking that you let me know if you plan to attend so we make sure to have enough food. College students are generally eager to eat something homemade, so we don't want anyone to go away hungry. Email me at: fayebj50@gmail.com or text me at 828 506-3184. **DO NOT HESITATE TO COME IF YOU HAVE NOT SIGNED UP.** We want everyone who can come to share in these special dinners. The sign-up number is just an estimate for planning the amount of food.

Advent Devotionals Available



The devotional *Advent in Full Color* is available for pick up in the back of the church. *Advent in Full Color* is a modern and theologically rich devotional coloring book that evokes the season's deeper meanings and mysteries, featuring devotional poems, meditations, and practices. This devotional is an intergenerational coloring book that can be used by the whole family. I hope this book adds meaning and creativity to your Advent devotions and meditations. If you would prefer an electronic version instead, please let Mtr. Gaelyn know and she can email you one.

Pledge Card Update

I would like to apologize for inadvertently leaving several time and talent pledging opportunities off this year's pledge card. The following opportunities are available and would benefit greatly from additional parish volunteers:

Parish Food Ministry
Altar Guild
Stewardship Team

Please let Gaelyn, Judy Robinson, or me know if you would like to add one or more of these to your pledge card.

Thank you

Vance Davidson, Stewardship Chair

Christmas Poinsettia 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 bulletins 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 Steve Steinbrueck.



Sylva Christmas Parade is This Sunday

The Sylva Christmas parade will be Sunday afternoon, December 5th. Sylva Pride will participate. There will be no Sylva Pride float this year; folks will just walk carrying the Sylva Pride banner.

If you are interested in walking with Sylva Pride in the parade, plan to gather at the Sylva Fire Department between 1:30-2 Sunday afternoon. The parade will begin at 3 pm.

Epiphany Blessings!

Did you know that the season of Epiphany is the traditional season for services of Home Blessings? According to the Book of Occasional Services, "it is customary to invite the parish priest to the homes of parishioners on the Feast of the Epiphany or during the week following; this blessing may be used. "Peace be to this house, and all who dwell in it." The service can continue throughout the house with a blessing in each room and end with a service of Holy Communion. The service can include various readings from Scripture and even hymns if wanted. This could be a great opportunity to gather with family or friends to share in both fellowship and worship in your own home. There are many options, and the service can be customized as you may wish. If you are interested in having a Home Blessing this Epiphany, please contact Mother Gaelyn by email, phone, or text. rector@stdavidsculowhee.org or (828)331-1427.



EPIPHANY

St. David's Food Ministry: A Gift of Time and Talent

The Food Ministry at St. David's is not only rewarding for those of us who provide food but is greatly appreciated by the recipients. It fills a real need when someone is ill or recovering from surgery. Family members can concentrate on caring for their families in stressful times. Mtr. Gaelyn or I make a phone call or send an email to see if food might be helpful. Once meals are confirmed, I get all the information our volunteers will need: food allergies, special diets, directions to their home, best contact information, and the number of days needed. I send out a request for volunteers to the people who are on my list. Everyone on the list does not participate each time. In fact, I send out an email and the slots are usually filled by the next day. Many members have been on both the receiving end and the giving end of this ministry and never fail to express that the meals were more than just food for their body.

Food for special events is another part of this ministry and is fun for everyone. Several times a year we have a special Coffee Hour, like the one last Sunday, or celebrate some significant event in the life of a parishioner. We at St. David's like any opportunity to get together to eat, drink and be merry! Many members participate so no one is asked to bring multiple dishes or to volunteer at all if it is not convenient at that particular time.

If you would like to be part of this gift to our parish, please contact me at: fayebj50@gmail.com or text me at 828 506-3184. This ministry means so much to me because I can help when help is needed. If you join us, I am sure you will have the same experience.

Parish News & Notes

Dec 6 **Birthday**
 Jake Coburn

Healing prayers for Chris Jacobson as he undergoes back surgery.
Faye and Jake are traveling to be with him.

Lake Logan Events

<https://www.lakelogan.org/events/>



Upcoming Events

Cold Mountain Music Festival June 4, 2022

Camp Henry Starts June 12, 2022

Family Camp June 16-19, 2022

A sincere thank you from the editor for your submissions! News items and especially photos are always welcome. Let us know what you are up to or anything of interest to your parish friends. Send items to Maggie Bowles.

Beware of Scammers!

Please know that no member of the St. David's clergy or staff will ever contact the parish via email or text requesting money or gift cards! Please do not respond to or forward suspicious emails, and never give out your personal information to anyone over the internet or through email.

Beans & Rice

Donations of rice and beans may be left in the large containers behind the front doors of the church to be distributed to Vecinos and families.



Jackson County Public Schools Secret Santa Program

United Christian Ministries partners with local schools to provide food bags for the long Christmas break. Jackson County Public Schools have started a new program to help provide Christmas presents to needy children, and we are passing that information along to you for anyone who may want to participate.

The Secret Santa Program is a chance for you to make a local child's Christmas merrier! A wish list has been compiled for 103 children in need. "Adopt" a child as their Secret Santa, use their wish list to buy three gifts (please include 1 practical item), and drop off the unwrapped gifts to the Jackson County Board of Education before December 17th.

To adopt a child, [click here](#). You will receive a confirmation email with a child's wish list. Thank you!

Sylva Garden Club Annual Pecan Sale

Once again, the Sylva Garden Club is selling pecans to fund our two scholarships, one to WCU and one to SCC. This sale also funds our beautification projects, which is especially important this year since the county has decommissioned their greenhouses and can no longer help us with plants.

Sylva Garden Club

Fresh
Georgia



Pecans are available at these local merchants

City Lights Bookstore

Ray's Florist

KrisMart

Country Road Farms

Tuckasee Trading Company

You can also go to www.sylvagardenclubnc.com for information

2021 Annual Pecan Sales Fundraiser

Whole Halves	12oz Bag	\$10.00
Dark Chocolate	12oz Bag	\$12.00
Milk Chocolate	12oz Bag	\$12.00
Caramel Pecan Clusters	10oz Bag	\$12.00

Cash or Check (payable to Sylva Garden Club)

WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT

All proceeds provide

Yearly Scholarships to



Sylva Beautification



St. David's in the Valley, Clergy and Staff

The Right Rev. Jose A. McLoughlin, Bishop
The Rev. Gaelyn Lei Evangreene, Rector
Suzann Cornell, Parish Administrator
Lillian Pearson, Organist

Serving this week:

Chalice Bearer, Vance Davidson
Lector, Lydia Aydlett

This Sunday's readings are:

[Malachi 3:1-4](#), [Philippians 1:3-11](#), [Luke 3:1-6](#), Song of Zechariah S251

Coffee Hour,

Greeter,

Intercessor,

Flowers, Greenery by Muff Lyons

Bread Bakers, Gracia & John Slater

Vestry Counter, Vance Davidson

Sunday Communion, Gracia Slater

Contact us:

rector@stdavidscullowhee.org

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www.stdavidscullowhee.org

Like us on Facebook @stdavidsepiscopalchurch
follow us on Instagram @stdavidscullowhee

Connect with Kelsey Davis, Episcopal Missioner for WCU
(828) 424-1377 kdavis@diocesewnc.org Instagram @episcopalwcu

HAPPENING AT ST. DAVID'S

SUNDAYS

11:00 IN-PERSON AND FACEBOOK LIVE HOLY EUCHARIST

RECTOR IN OFFICE

WEDNESDAYS 7-8 PM EPISCOPAL CAMPUS MINISTRY AT WESTERN 9 (ECU@WCU) MEETS FOR COCOA, CONVO, AND COMPLINE-ALL STUDENTS ARE WELCOME

MONDAYS AND WEDNESDAYS

RECTOR IN OFFICE

WEDNESDAYS NOON-5 PM

PARISH ADMINISTRATOR IN OFFICE