

The Coracle

St Davids Cullowhee



December 8, 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 8	Advent 2, Holy Eucharist 11 am, Rice & Beans
Mon	Dec 9	Vestry Meeting 5:30 pm
Wed	Dec 11	Advent Wednesday Evening Service 5:30 pm Speaker, Judy Robinson
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
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

Serving this Sunday

Chalice: George Rector
Reader: Vance Davidson
Music: Savannah Bennett
Anthem: The Cherry Tree
Coffee: Gracia & John Slater
Readings: Isaiah 11:1-10,
Romans 15:4-13, Matthew 3:1-
12, Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19

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

[Sermon Link](#)



[Parish Profile 2019](#)



Beans & Rice

Second Sunday of each month is Beans & Rice Sunday! Your generous donations of beans and rice are blessed then distributed to several local charities to share with those who most need the help. It is especially important during the cold months.

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 Interim Rector

By The Rev. Valori Mulvey Sherer

(Please note that the links in this article do not work for unknown reason. Most of the information can be accessed from [St. David's website](#). Information in the article is up to date.)

Support for Advent Preparation

Advent is a season of interior preparation for the "new thing" God is doing in us, in our faith community, and in the world. The coming of the Christ is an ongoing revelation to us, a gift of a gracious God who knows and loves us so well that we are given continual access to the truth over time so that we can "bear it." (Jn 16:12)

To aid in our preparation, I offer the opportunity to pray with icons, which I will set up in the upstairs parish hall for the duration of Advent. You can come individually or in groups as is convenient for you. You can also set up a time with me to teach or pray with you.

I also offer an outline for an individual spiritual retreat—a day or two away in prayerful solitude, along with some reading resources to aid in your listening. I recommend either of our conference centers: the [Valle Crucis hermitages](#) or [Lake Logan](#) for retreat locations.

Please [email Valori+](#) if you'd like to access this support for your Advent preparation. My prayers for our community are continual.

White Board Update:

The seasons of Advent and Christmas are busy at St. David's! Betsy and I have updated the white board to include the Sunday, Wednesday, and Christmas services. Attached is a photo of the board.

At this point, we still need our regular group of servers (Chalicerist, Lector, Greeters) for our Holy Eucharist on all of the Sundays in December, including the Sunday after Christmas. Since the first Sunday of Advent is this coming Sunday, and there won't be time to get to the white board ahead of it, please [email Valori+](#) and let me know if you'd like to serve in any of those ministries.

SAINT DAVID'S IN THE VALLE									
MONTH	DATE	SEASON	CHALICIST	READER	COFFEE HOUR	GREETERS	ALTAR GUILD	FLOWERS	SPECIAL
DECEMBER	1	Advent I	VANCE	PAUL C	melba				
WED	4	Weds Service	OFFICIANT: JUNE	SPEAKER: Betsy	X			X	Muff Cookies
SUN	8	Advent II	George	VANCE	Genain John				
WED	11	Weds Service	OFFICIANT: JUNE	SPEAKER: Tudy	X			X	Muff Cookies
SUN	15	Advent III							
WED	18	Weds Service	OFFICIANT: JUNE	SPEAKER:	X			X	Muff Cookies
SUN	22	Advent IV							
TUE	24	Christmas Eve		READER 1: JUNE	READER 2: Margot	READER 3: Genain	READER 4: PAUL C	READERS:	
WED	25	Christmas Day	VANCE						
SUN	29	Christmas E							

There remains one opening for a speaker at the Wednesday service on December 18th, though two persons are discerning about that now. If, however, you feel led to do this, please [email Valori+](#) and let me know. We have time to listen for God's prompting on this. We also need Greeters for all of the Wednesday services.

Our two Christmas services need the regular servers (Chalicer, Lector, Greeters) for our Holy Eucharist, but instead of one (1) lector on Christmas Eve, we need five (5) since we are doing Lessons & Carols. We have three so far as you can see in the picture.

Thank you to those who have and will offer their gifts of ministry to our gathered community this coming month. You are a blessing to us and to God, and I am so grateful for you.

Re: The Open Parish Administrator Position

While there is no Parish Administrator, some of those duties are not getting completed, e.g. posting the vestry meeting minutes and financials on the website, filing the Sunday lectionaries for future use. If you'd like to help get those tasks updated, please [email Valori+](#) and let me know. Your help would be much appreciated.

Some of the Parish Admin tasks are being completed by me because they are a priority: updating the [Upcoming Events](#) on the website, developing and printing the Sunday bulletins and lectionaries, ordering supplies, etc. Many thanks to Steve Steinbrueck for stepping in to pick up the mail at our PO Box and distributing it each week.

The good news is that this position may be filled very soon! I hope to be able to announce this by next week (praise God!). In the meantime, there is a big box of unfiled, still stuffed bulletins and lectionary inserts that needs attention so we don't overwhelm the new hire. I'm thinking that this calls for a filing party! I'll provide the libations ☺ If you'd like to help with this, [email Valori+](#) and we'll find a date to get this done.

The Christmas Gift of St. David's [Website](#)

People looking for places to worship most often do their looking online, especially the under 40 crowd. Our website is designed and intended primarily for those who don't know us—seekers looking for relationship with God and a faith community. This is especially important during the Christmas season when the "C & E" folks want to reconnect.

That our website also offers a handy means by which our members can find dates and times of Upcoming Events, read the Parish Profile or Coracle, etc., is a blessed gift. I'm grateful that this gift seems to be pretty well used by our community.

With so much going on in December, please remember that the Home page features the next upcoming event and the [Upcoming Events](#) page has a list of what's happening, when, and where. If you click on the event picture you can download a flyer (pdf) to print or email to share with friends.

The online [Calendar](#) also has these events listed. If you click on the calendar event it will provide information about who's serving at the services and what days/times the services and events are happening.

If you have any pictures you took at St. David's events during 2019, please send them to the church email: stdavidscullowhee@gmail.com and describe what the event was. These can be included on the website on the [Gallery](#) page and in the Annual Report meeting being prepared now for posting in January following our Annual Parish Meeting.

Valori+

Parish News & Notes

Birthdays

- Dec 10** Sandy Railsback
- Dec 11** Valori+ Sherer
- Dec 12** Kathy Davidson
- Dec 14** Emma Tomczak, Betsey Hamlet

Heidi Dinkelmeyer will be singing with the Cullowhee Valley School youth choir at WCU's "Sounds of the Season" concert on December 8th.

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)			

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.

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