

The Coracle

St Davids Cullowhee



February 7, 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,

Before long Ash Wednesday will be upon us. The pandemic began for us in Western North Carolina during Lent 2020 and though we have prayed and hoped we would be emerging from lockdown before Lent 2021 that is sadly not possible given the numbers of people suffering and the speed of the vaccination distribution. It is with this reality that we all are pondering how we keep Lent, mark this season as distinct from the rest of the year, while continuing a pattern of life that is largely unchanged over the past year. I am also acutely aware that in terms of the feeling of deprivation or “giving up things” this past year has been in some ways one long season of Lent during which we have awaited many resurrections in a sense.

With all these realities in mind, what sort of a Holy Lent will we be entering? As we approach Ash Wednesday, I invite you to contemplate the richness of Lent in our Episcopal tradition. What are the signs and symbols of Lent that recall you to your life in Christ and to our Savior, Jesus? What prayers rich in language and imagery allow you to dwell on the love God has for you and the world? What hymns and anthems draw you into the sacrifice and passion of Jesus as he faced temptation, broke bread with friends and washed their feet, suffered betrayal and death?

The Episcopal calendar reminds us that Fridays throughout the year, except during Christmas and Easter seasons, are marked by a Special Devotion and all the days of Lent, except for Sundays, are also days of Special Devotion. Our acts of Special Devotion on these days are to bring Jesus more closely to our minds and hearts. It may be that stopping yourself each time you reach for some chocolate does that: brings your heart and mind closer to Jesus. It may be that calling someone each week whom you know to be lonely or taking up a new devotional practice will also draw your heart and mind closer to Jesus. Often taking on a new practice with another person can help each person to continue their commitment and also enrich the experience with support and shared experience.

In a survey conducted last May prior to my time as rector, a small group of responding parishioners indicated a desire for a Bible Study group. In answer to this desire, which is one of my own as well, we will gather on Zoom each Wednesday during Lent at 4:00 for Bible study. Each week we will focus on the gospel passage for the following Sunday. If you are looking for a shared experience, a Special Devotion, a deeper understanding of the gospel, or time in community, I hope you will join us.

Peace and Blessings,

Mother Gaelyn

Service Information

Sunday, 2/7/2021 at 11 am

[Facebook Live](#) (Church Service) [Bulletin](#)
[Coffee Hour Zoom Link](#)

No Internet or Smartphone? Dial +1 929 205 6099 and enter meeting ID number 857 5147 5913 to join in for Zoom Coffee Hour after church.

Lector: June Smith

Prayers: Muff Lyons

Flowers: Judy Annis

Music: Lillian Pearson

Email prayer requests to [Muff Lyons](#)

Wednesday Services

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

[Facebook Link for Past Services](#)

Email [Mtr. Gaelyn](#) to meet with her for conversation or prayer.

Additional Information

- Feb 7 Liturgy of the Word 11 am [Facebook Live](#)
- Feb 8 Vestry Meeting 5:30 pm
- Feb 10 Morning Prayer on [Zoom](#)
- Feb 14 Liturgy of the Word 11 am [Facebook Live](#)
- Feb 17 Morning Prayer on [Zoom 9:30 am](#)
Lenten Bible Study 4 pm on Zoom
Ash Wednesday 5:30 pm on Zoom
- Mar 7 St. David's Day/Mtr. Gaelyn Celebration

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.



Online class with Bishop José and Canon Augusta, Tuesday, February 9th at 7 pm. Click [HERE](#) to sign up. Or watch anytime on the [Diocese of WNC YouTube channel](#).

Ash Wednesday 2021



Our Ash Wednesday service will be on Facebook Live at 5:30 pm on Wednesday, February 17th. Because we will not be gathered together, everyone is encouraged to come by the church to pick up a *Lent at Home Kit* which will include a small envelope of Ashes made from last year's palms. There will be kits available specifically for individuals, couples, and families. The ashes may be kept throughout Lent as a reminder, "*remember that you are dust and to dust you shall return*" or you may wish to put them on your forehead in the manner we would usually do at church. If you have palms from last year at home behind a cross or icon, please return them to the church, so they may be included in the burning of the palms. The palms that become ashes remind us that though we return to dust, we are also raised to new life in the One we hail with palm branches and cries of Hosanna!

Lenten Bible Study

Who: everyone! You, your family, your neighbor...

What: a simple, reflective study of the gospel for the following Sunday

When: 4:00 on Wednesdays in Lent beginning Ash Wednesday, February 17th

Where: Zoom

Why: to deepen our understanding of the gospel, what it means for us right now, and what next steps God is asking us to take



Mark your calendars for March 7th, St. David's Day!

Bishop José will preside for Mtr. Gaelyn's Celebration of New Ministry.

Spring 2021 Volunteer Work Weekend at Lake Logan

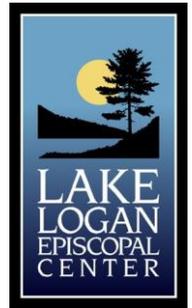
March 5th-7th, 2021

There will be time for work, recreation, and fellowship during Volunteer Weekend. Project leaders and workers are needed. Leaders will come in on Friday evening for prep, and all other volunteers will join on Saturday morning. Housing is provided for volunteers who work on Saturday and Sunday.

For all projects, we will practice physical distancing, and volunteers must wear face coverings when working inside or near other volunteers.

There is no charge to attend this weekend; however, a suggested donation of at least \$50 per volunteer will help us cover the cost of your meals. If you can give more to cover the cost for volunteers who want to help but can't afford to donate, we thank you. And if you can only donate your time, that's okay too.

Please register by Monday, March 1st. For more information and to register, please [click here](#).



Parish News & Notes

Birthdays

Feb 10	Ida Lou Reisinger
Feb 11	Frank Lockwood

Dear St. David's Family

We want to publicly thank our Parish family for your prayers, concern, emails, text messages, cards, phone calls, and wonderful food during our recent bout with the Covid virus. We are so blessed to have a support system that is so loving and caring...you all are the best! Our recovery has been aided by the unswerving support and love from all of you. We thank you all!

Love, Kathy, and Vance.



JACKSON COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

15 Griffin Street ■ Sylva, NC 28779

Phone: 828-586-5546 Fax: 828-586-6270 www.jcdss.org

Jennifer Abshire, Director

January 11, 2021

Dear Christmas Sponsors,

Our Agency would like to thank you for helping making our 2020 Foster Care Christmas a success. We very much appreciate the time, money, gifts and effort that you and/or your organization has taken to make Christmas special for children in foster care. Please know that these children had a great Christmas holiday thanks to your dedication to this cause. Please let us know if there is anything, our Agency can do to make this process easier or more convenient in the years to come.

Sincerely,

Kim Poteet
Social Worker
kpoteet@jcdss.org
828-587-2058

Kim Davis
Social Work Supervisor
kdavis@jcdss.org
828-587-2079

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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Newsletter

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[Lake Logan Conference Center](#)

[Camp Henry Facebook Page](#)