

# The Coracle

St Davids Cullowhee



February 9, 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.

## Calendar

Sun	Feb 9	Epiphany 5, Holy Eucharist 11 am
Mon	Feb 10	Vestry Meeting 5:30 pm
Sat	Feb 15	Vestry Retreat 9am-4pm
Sun	Feb 16	Epiphany 6, Holy Eucharist 11 am
Thu	Feb 20	Accessible Mindfulness 10 am
Sun	Feb 23	Epiphany 7, Holy Eucharist 11 am, Soup Supper 5-7 pm
Wed	Feb 26	Ash Wednesday
Sun	Mar 1	Lent 1, St. David's Day, Holy Eucharist 11 am
Thu	Mar 5	Accessible Mindfulness 10 am
Sun	Mar 8,	Lent 2, Holy Eucharist 11 am
Mon	Mar 9	Vestry Meeting 5:30 pm
Sun	Mar 15,	Lent 3, Holy Eucharist 11 am
Thu	Mar 19	Accessible Mindfulness 10 am
Sun	Mar 22,	Lent 4, Holy Eucharist 11 am
Sun	Mar 29,	Lent 5, Holy Eucharist 11 am Soup Supper 5 pm
Thu	Apr 2	Accessible Mindfulness 10 am
Sun	Apr 5	Palm Sunday Holy Eucharist 11 am
Thu	Apr 9	Maundy Thursday
Fri	Apr 10	Good Friday
Sat	Apr 11	Holy Saturday
Sun	Apr 12	Easter, Holy Eucharist 11 am

### [Sermon Link](#)

[George Rector's Prayer Collection for Discernment](#)

## Serving this Sunday

Chalice: Vance Davidson

Reader: June Smith

Music: Savannah Bennett

Coffee: **ALL**

Readings: Isaiah 58:1-9a, [9b-12];

Psalm 112:1-9; 1 Corinthians 2:1-12;

Matthew 5:13-20

## Serving Sunday, February 16

Reader: Vance Davidson

Music: Lillian Pearson

Coffee: Faye & Jake Jacobson

## Serving Sunday, February 23

Reader: Paul Cooper

Music: Savannah Bennett

## Serving during February

Flowers: Judy Robinson

Linen: Nan Watkins

Communion: Karen Brown &

June Smith

Greeter: Steve Steinbrueck

Bread: Doug & Mary Michael Hanks

## Serving during March

Greeter: Gracia Slater

Bread: Judy Robinson

## From the Sr. Warden

### Farewell and Best Wishes to Valori+

By Jessica Philyaw

Sunday, February 9<sup>th</sup>, will be Valori+'s last Sunday as St. David's interim rector before she heads to Columbia, MO for an interim rectorship there. We will send her off with our thanks, warm wishes, and a small gift at a farewell coffee hour after the service.

The vestry hopes to be able to share details about arrangements for another interim priest or priest-in-charge after the next meeting on February 10<sup>th</sup>. (We will have the Rev. Nick McDonald with us for Sunday February 16<sup>th</sup>.)

## Coracle Notice

By Maggie Bowles

The Coracle will not be published for the next three weeks while the editor is travelling in Costa Rica. This issue includes all information that I have to date for that time period. Margot Wilcox will send urgent news by email blast while I am gone.



## **From the Interim Rector**

By The Rev. Valori Mulvey Sherer

Many of you will remember that when I arrived at St. David's in January, 2018 our first shared experience was a funeral. Some of you apologized that our start began that way, but I was always grateful to God for it. In the first place, our Burial Office is so beautiful, but more importantly, as Episcopalians, no matter what our social, theological, or political beliefs, what binds us together as the body of Christ is prayer. That's why the Book of Common Prayer is our symbol of unity in The Episcopal Church. Finally, how kind it was of God to guide us to remember God's promises to us at death as we were divinely knit together to grieve what had been at St. David's and open to what God was calling us to become.

This week as my tenure here draws to a close, we shared a service of Confirmation and Reception, affirming our identity as members of the Episcopal branch of the Jesus movement. That we had guests from Grace, Waynesville joining us was a true gift reminding us that we are the body of Christ, a community larger than any particular church building. That's why the bishop, the chosen guardian of our faith and unity, presides at Confirmation. I am grateful that God is sending us into our respective new seasons with the reminder that no matter where we are, we are one - one body, one spirit in Christ.

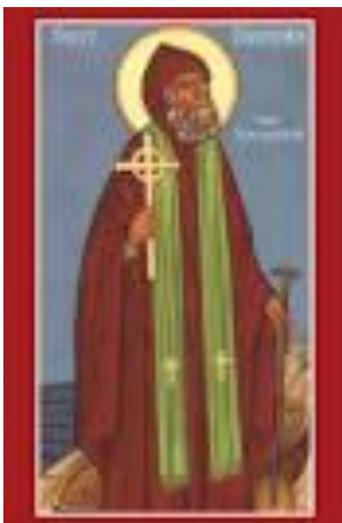
While we must observe a "black out" of communication for the next year so that your new rector can establish their pastoral relationship with you, this too is only for a season and the boundary during this time is my responsibility to keep. To aid in this, I ask you to please delete my [interimvmsherer@gmail.com](mailto:interimvmsherer@gmail.com) address from your Contacts as that email will go with me.

Next Sunday we will pray our farewell in the midst of our Great Thanksgiving: The Holy Eucharist. I will lead the vestry in their February meeting on Monday, then take my leave from St. David's, thanking God for you and continually blessing you in your life of faith and service in Christ's name.

I thank you for our time in ministry together. I have learned so much from you and grown as a person and as a priest. My prayers for you will never cease.

As we part, I share with you once again the prayer I repeat for myself at each new transition: the Prayer of St. Brendan.

*Valori+*



**Lord, I will trust You.**

**Help me to journey beyond the familiar  
and into the unknown.**

**Give me the faith to leave old ways  
and break fresh ground with You.**

**Christ of the mysteries, I trust You  
to be stronger than each storm within me.**

**I will trust in the darkness and know  
that my times, even now, are in Your hand.**

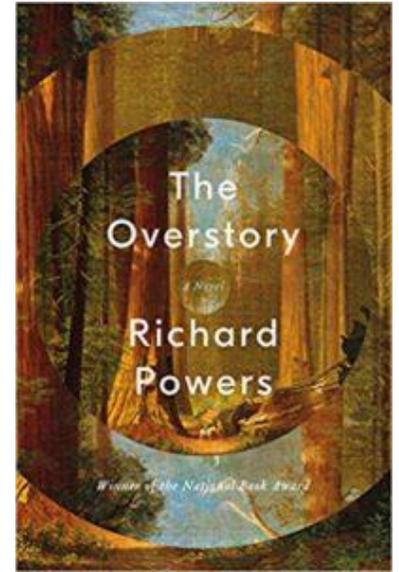
**Tune my spirit to the music of heaven,  
and somehow, make my obedience count for You.**

## A Reading Suggestion for the St. David's Family

By Muff Lyons and Nan Watkins

Muff and I are deep into reading the 2019 Pulitzer-Prize-winning novel *Overstory*, by Richard Powers. He is a brilliant author who tackles difficult subjects and discusses them in his novels. Example: his *Goldbug Variations* is a blending of Bach's 32 Goldberg Variations with Poe's story, "The Goldbug." He has won more than twenty big awards for his work and received one of the MacArthur Genius grants early on.

Powers has seen the light about the climate crisis and the devastation mankind has wreaked on the planet. He understands vividly the grand web of all creation being linked together. He watches, listens, observes, and sees how mankind has followed a reckless path of ownership, personal wealth, complete disrespect for other forms of life and is ruining its own nest. In this book he sees it as a moral issue to show people that the rights of ownership must be extended to all forms of life (like civil rights). Powers shares this philosophy with Thoreau, Wendell Berry, Thomas Berry, Michael Hudson, and many of us at St. David's. He has the scientific know-how to back up his thesis, his belief. He has spent the previous six years "writing a novel about trees," reading some 120 books on trees and sharing his knowledge via the characters and actions in his novel *Overstory*. Every character in the book has some specific relationship with trees, from ardent activism down to not even noticing a beautiful dogwood in bloom. He sets out to tell the story of how a great forest works, using it as a profound example to teach people the interconnectedness of all life. Some of his characters begin actively advocating "the personhood" of trees, whole forests, rivers, mountains, and on and on.



The book is brilliantly written on many levels, is 500 pages long, highly detailed. It can be tough reading, even depressing, but extremely rewarding if you read slowly and carefully. It's not a novel to romp through. It will go down as a path-breaking novel (think Joyce's *Ulysses*), but it's not a book for everyone.

We would like to suggest that the St. David's community would more than likely enjoy, actually truly enjoy, reading *The Overstory*. We have not talked with anyone who has read it who doesn't engage in conversation that is animated with thought. It is so connected to our Creation Cycle way of thinking.



### Circles of Hope

#### Volunteers Needed to Provide Food

By Judy Annis

St. David's has agreed to continue to support *Circles of Hope* by providing dinner for the participants in months with a 5<sup>th</sup> Tuesday. The dates for these dinners are March 31<sup>st</sup>, June 30<sup>th</sup>, September 29<sup>th</sup> and December 29<sup>th</sup>. Some churches have a set meal that they cook each time. I'm suggesting that we do that as well and that the menu consist of chicken tetrazzini casserole, a salad, bread and a dessert. I will provide a recipe for the chicken. Hopefully, we can have 4–5 volunteers for each night, so that it is not too much for one person. Please contact me if you are willing to help. Phone is 586-9557 and my email is [jerewannis@gmail.com](mailto:jerewannis@gmail.com). Thanks so much.

# Bishop's Visit 2/4/2020



## Lake Logan Tentative Program Schedule

Date	Program
February 7-9	Living the Way of Love: Courageous Conversations About Diversity
March 2-6	Lenten Retreat: Icon Writing
April 13-16	Clergy Rest Days
April 20-21	Parish Administrators Retreat / Youth Ministers Retreat
May 7	Altar Guild Workshop
June 5-6	Cold Mountain Music Festival
June and July	Camp Henry
July 11	Music Series
August 15	Music Series
September 12	Music Series
October 5-7	Artists in Residence
November 9-12	Fly Fishing Retreat
November 26	Thanksgiving Feast
December 4-6	Advent Retreat



## Parish News & Notes

### Birthdays

Feb 10 **Ida Reisinger**  
 Feb 11 **Frank Lockwood**  
 Feb 17 **Terry Kinnear**  
 Feb 19 **Rosa Reily**

Feb 20 **Barrett Yanik**  
 Feb 24 **Clara Moussalli**  
 Feb 26 **Jeff Neff**  
 Mar 1 **Mary Michael Hanks**

## Charlie's Challenge

By Judy Annis

A big thank you to all of you who attended our Charlie's Challenge Dinner. Jackson *Neighbors In Need* is so grateful for your continuing support. We are happy to report it was a successful evening. It looked as though everyone were enjoying themselves, and we raised about \$10,000 with donations continuing to come in by mail. Gracia Slater won a wonderful wine and cheese basket!



### 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.

<b>Regular Activities</b>	2 <sup>nd</sup> 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 <sup>nd</sup> Mondays	Vestry Meeting 5:30 pm
	1 <sup>st</sup> & 3 <sup>rd</sup> Thursdays	Accessible Mindfulness 10 am

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

Website: [stdavidscullowhee.org](http://stdavidscullowhee.org)  
[Lectionary Page 2020](#)

Newsletter editor: Maggie Bowles: [magbowles@gmail.com](mailto:magbowles@gmail.com)

Church phone # and email: 828-331-1427

[stdavidscullowhee@gmail.com](mailto: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](http://www.lakelogan.org)

**St. David's Vestry**

Jessica Philyaw, Sr. Warden      Sandy Frazier, Jr. Warden  
Gael Graham      Vance Davidson  
Jake Jacobson      Doug Hanks  
Steve Steinbrueck, Treasurer, is ex-officio to the vestry.

**2019 Outreach Support**

From 1<sup>st</sup> 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.