

The Coracle

St Davids Cullowhee



May 22, 2022

Called to embody God's love by welcoming everyone who enters
and by empowering all who stay to make a difference in the world.

Rogation Sunday Procession and Picnic on May 22nd

By Mtr. Gaelyn+

Traditionally, Rogation Days (from the Latin term rogatio, “asking”) are the three days before Ascension Day, which fell on May 12th this year. Rogation can also be observed on the 6th Sunday of Easter. The observance originated in Vienne, France, in the fifth century, when Bishop Mamertus introduced days of fasting and prayer to ward off a threatened disaster. In England they were associated with the blessing of the fields at planting. The vicar, wardens, and choir boys “beat the bounds” of the parish, processing around the fields reciting psalms and the litany. In the United States, they have been associated with rural life and with agriculture and fishing. The propers in the BCP (pp. 207-208, 258-259, 930) have widened their scope to include commerce and industry and the stewardship of creation.

Given our deep love and respect for creation at St. David’s, observing Rogation Sunday is a perfect time to celebrate and ask God’s blessing on our land. On Sunday, May 22nd following our 11:00 service of Holy Eucharist, we will process through the Cemetery and onto the Nature Trail, offer prayers, and ask for blessings at Jo’s Playground, and bless our gardens. Please bring a picnic lunch, so we can enjoy some fellowship and this beautiful space we have been blessed to steward.

Happening Soon at St. David’s

Altar Guild Brunch cancelled

Sunday 10:00-10:40 am

Bible Study

Rogation Sunday

May 22nd Special Service-Bring a picnic lunch

Western Deanery Dinner

[June 14th 6 pm in Franklin](#)

You can find dates and information about attending the Diocesan [Deanery Dinners](#) at this link.

Saturday, June 25

Day of Mindfulness with Trish Thompson

Save the Date

The St. David’s community will host a special event June 25th when Trish Thompson returns to lead us in a Day of Mindfulness. Some of you have participated in earlier events here with Trish. You can refresh your memory of that on P. 188 of the St. David’s history.

Trish is a Dharma teacher in the tradition of Thich Nhat Hanh. She describes herself as a Christian with a Buddhist practice. She has spent the last 18 years in Vietnam leading retreats and leading good works for disadvantaged Vietnamese through her Loving Work Foundation. You can read more about her activities at: lovingworkfoundation.org.

Trish suggests that we limit attendance to 25. In another week or two, we will provide information on how to sign up to attend. We will invite the entire community of Jackson Co. to participate through an article in the *Sylva Herald* before the event. The event will include a simple lunch. This is just a heads up for now so you can save the date if you would like to participate.

Vestry News

Dear Friends,

Your Vestry met on Monday May 9th. As always, we began with prayer and brought pastoral concerns to one another's attention.

We took a short field trip to the Cemetery to visualize the Cemetery Committee's recommendation that we consider several new plots for cremains. The Vestry then passed motions for eight additional plots, as well as creating an area to designate as a Memorial Garden (where ashes may be scattered or interred without an urn), and a Pet Memorial Garden.

Our new parish Administrative Assistant, Graydon Elliott, started this week. Graydon has been a regular ECM member and a Sunday attendee when his work schedule allows. This position has been open for a few months, and having it now filled again will free up Mtr. Gaelyn's time for pastoral care and other ministry.

Some exciting change is coming to our driveway! For greater visibility and an aesthetic update, we are going to be replacing the sign on Forest Hills Rd. Look for that later in the summer.

There have been a few Covid cases among us this week (nothing serious but it's sobering nonetheless.) Generally speaking, the most common variant currently circulating is more contagious, but symptoms tend to be milder. In Jackson County there were a total of 70 positive PCR tested cases the week of 5/7/22. Numbers have been going up for the past four weeks ([covid19.ncdhhs.gov](https://www.ncdhhs.gov/covid19)).

Let's remember that although symptoms may be mild, the virus shed by you might not be mild to someone whose immune system is weakened by other challenges, including just simply advanced age. The CDC recommends wearing a mask based on your personal preference, informed by your personal level of risk. Let's protect one another by being vigilant with handwashing and appropriate distancing. I know I have been enjoying the feeling of freedom from masks and worry, BUT ... it's not over 'til it's over....

Holding each and all of us in love and prayer,
Betsy Swift
Senior Warden



The climbing dome is complete.

Investment & Endowment Policies

by Randi Neff

St. David's monies are kept in three accounts: the general checking account, an investment fund, and the Endowment. The checking account normally contains four to six months of budgeted expenses. The investment fund, in addition to general reserves, contains money that is restricted to use for the Cemetery, Altar Guild, and future large expenses for such things as roofs, HVAC equipment, and water heaters. It is our intent to add to the investment fund annually so that the projected costs of these items can be paid out of invested funds. It is expected that these funds will reduce the amount of fundraising needed for capital expenses 15 to 30 years down the road.

The investment and Endowment accounts are managed by the Episcopal Church Foundation. The latter is governed by a lengthy (19 page) policy and directed by the Vestry with guidance from the Finance and Endowment Committees. It is protected by state law under the Uniform Prudent Management of Institutional Funds Act (UPMIFA) and held in perpetuity for Capital improvements, outreach ministries, grants, seed money for new ministries, and special one-time projects. It is managed as a long-term investment. Withdrawals from the Endowment fund are rare. However, it can be used for emergencies with a two-thirds vote by the Vestry at two consecutive regularly scheduled meetings and the congregation must be informed. Any distribution of these funds will be based upon a total return principle and are limited to 3% to 5% of the market value.

St. David's annual budget works on a cash basis. All expected expenses are budgeted based on pledges and projected revenue from non-pledge contributions and fund-raising.

The Investment fund is invested in a manner that is sensitive to environmental, social and governance issues; we have specifically chosen to only invest in fossil fuel free funds.

I am still learning about these funds and their management, but I'd be happy to talk more with anyone who would like more details.

Parish News & Notes

Birthdays

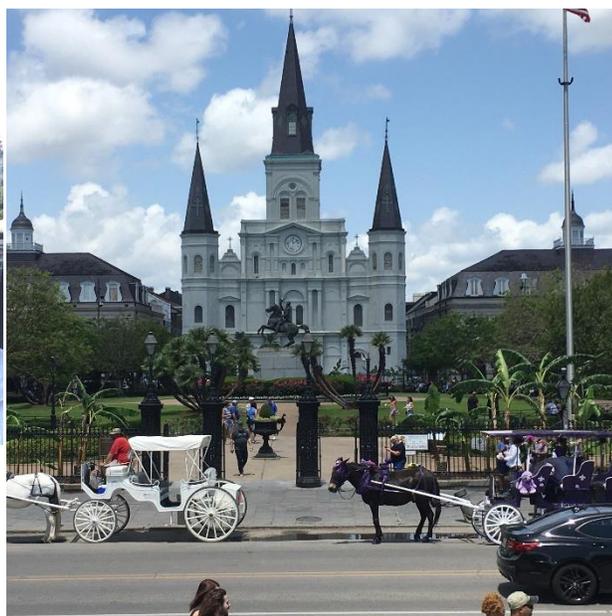
May 22 **David Bowles**
May 30 **Steve Steinbrueck**

Message from Boot Hanks

I wanted to share a couple of pics (to put a face to a name) and gratitude to everyone at St. David's who has been keeping my dad, Randy, in their thoughts and prayers. This first pic is from Easter Sunday service in Baton Rouge, and the second was the morning I left him after his first procedure. I will travel back to BR next week for his last two procedures on the 26th and 27th. Please continue to keep my dad (& mom) in your prayers. I cannot tell you how much they are appreciated and felt!!



Judy and Ron Robinson enjoyed three days in New Orleans last week. Beignets for breakfast, exploring Tulane campus (Judy's undergrad university), a day at the WWII museum, jazz in a French Quarter pub, and the Jazz Festival filled their days. But it was hot and humid and return to our mountains, a pleasure.



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](mailto:Maggie.Bowles).

Securing Our Property

Please remember to lock any doors that you may have opened either upstairs or in the *Gathering Place* when you leave!

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.

Lake Logan Events

<https://www.lakelogan.org/events/>
[Link for Diocesan Newsletter](#)

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.



Regular Schedule at St. David's

Sundays

10:00-10:40 Bible Study in the Upper Room

11:00 In-Person and Facebook Live Holy Eucharist, Rector in office

Mondays and Wednesdays

Rector in office

2nd Mondays at 5:30

Vestry in the Gathering Place

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

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

Serving this Sunday

Chalice Bearer, Betsy Swift
Lector, June Smith

Readings:

[Acts 16:9-15](#), [Revelation 21:10, 22-22:5](#), [John 14:23-29](#), [Psalm 67](#)

Coffee Hour, Bring your own picnic lunch

Greeter, Betsy Swift

Altar Set Up, Betsy Swift

Linens, Margot Wilcox

Bread Baker, Karen Brown

Live Streaming, Doug Hanks

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