

The Coracle

St Davids Cullowhee



August 16, 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.

A Message from Mother Gaelyn

April 16th, 2020

Dear friends,

One of the joys I have experienced since coming to St. David's is having a community with which to pray the Daily Office. While this has not been part of St. David's most recent history, reading June's book has certainly enlightened me to the long history the church has with Morning Prayer and Evensong. Morning and Evening Prayer, or the Daily Office as these services are known collectively, has allowed us to easily gather at a safe distance for prayer and the reading of Scripture, but also to get to know each other. I have appreciated Muff stepping in to lead Evening Prayer a couple of times and have also enjoyed that even while away, such as this past week, I could gather with St. David's for prayer over Zoom. As I have mentioned in sermons, I am definitely looking for ways to find the best in our current situation. Knowing that place and distance does not change our ability to be together is a comfort.

I want to schedule meetings with each person, couple, and family in our parish, so that we can better get to know each other. The need for safe distancing and knowing many people are safest at home has inspired me once again to turn to Zoom. I would love to hear from any people who I may not have had a get-to-know-you conversation with me, yet. Let's find a time to get a cup of tea, go for a walk, meet on the deck, or chat over Zoom. For some, I may know one member of a family, but not the others. Over the next few weeks, I will be reaching out to you all, or you may reach out to me. Let's not wait for the pandemic to make our gathering safer...let's work around it!

I look forward to our times to gather in prayer as well as in fellowship getting to know each other. We have so much to share and to look forward to. I look forward to our conversations, knowing as we pray in the Daily Office, "when two or three are gathered together in his Name you will be in the midst of them" (BCP, 102).

Peace and blessings,

Mother Gaelyn

Bishop José Featured in Article in Episcopal Church News

[A Bishop and Priest with Previous Law Enforcement Careers Confront A System](#) in Crisis by Egan Millard explores the current state of racism in policing from the viewpoint of former police officers who now serve the church.

Service Information for the Tenth Sunday of Pentecost

Join us Sunday at 11 am in real time on [Zoom](#) or [Facebook LIVE](#).

[Bulletin](#)

Serving this Sunday

Lector: Vance Davidson

Intercessors: Rosa Reily & Betsy Swift

Organist: Lillian Pearson

Email prayer requests to [Muff Lyons](#)

No Internet or Smartphone?

You can still join St. David's Zoom church meeting by phone by dialing +1 929 205 6099 and entering the meeting ID number 857 5147 5913. You can even use *6 to toggle mute/unmute.

[Facebook Link for Past Services](#)

Vestry News

By Jessica Philyaw, Senior Warden

The vestry met on August 10th via Zoom. One of the projects we are working on is getting our children's playground functional again for use by one family at a time. Franklin Fence did a beautiful job replacing the fencing that had to be removed because of the roof work, but we need to make some decisions about what kind of new mulch to put down before the playground equipment can be reinstalled. When the project is complete, look for an announcement (with pictures) here in the Coracle.

WCU classes resume on Monday, August 17th. We are working on visible ways we can welcome students and other newcomers to our church family and make them feel comfortable joining us for either online or in-person worship. We are in the process of developing some signage for a banner down by the road. In the meantime, please be sure to extend an invitation to friends and acquaintances!

The Safe Zone Project

By Jake Jacobson

Some of you are familiar with the Safe Zone Project and its introduction to WCU a number of years ago. You may have heard Faye and me speak about the huge emotional impact it had on us when we came to St. David's; seeing the Safe Zone sticker on the door, we knew that our family and all others with a gay member would be safe and welcomed at St. David's. This week I spoke with Dean Paulk, the coordinator of the program at WCU and learned that they are offering new training on the program via Zoom, beginning on August 25th. Faye and I have signed up and hope that others of you might be interested. As you probably know, we are planning to have a closer connection to the students at the university, and the vestry thinks this would be a good step in that direction. Following is an excerpt from the WCU Safe Zone web page and info about accessing the registration online for the training.

"The mission of the Safe Zone Program at WCU is to provide training, support, resources, and a NETWORK OF ALLIES (my caps) who are committed to enhancing the campus and local community's understanding of gender and sexuality. Our Safe Zone symbol visibly identifies people and places that are "Safe" for GLBTQ students, faculty, staff, and community members. It signifies safety, support, trustworthiness, and affirmation."

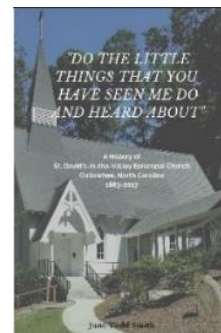
I can only imagine the feeling a young person looking for a church home near campus might have upon seeing signage or a sticker at St. David's letting them know they would be welcomed and fully accepted if they were to join us for worship and fellowship! Click the link to access the [WCU Safe Zone](#) web page where you will find more information about various resources available and a schedule of the fall term Zoom training dates. An invitation to the online trainings will be sent to the email address used during registration.

Hope to see you there! Jake and Faye

Book Study and Discussion: Each Wednesday in August at 4 pm

I hope many of you will join Gaelyn and fellow parishioners on Wednesday August 19th at 4 pm for the third part of our Zoom book club discussion. We will discuss the years 1992–2017 during Michael Hudson's ministry as covered in chapters 8, 9, and 10. Marilyn Jody will co-facilitate with June Smith. Click this [Zoom link](#) to join. There is no password. June Smith's book "Do the little things that you have seen me do and heard about": A History of St. David's-in-the-Valley Episcopal Church, Cullowhee, NC, 1883-2017. is available at City Lights Bookstore; all proceeds go back to St. David's.

[Submit a question](#) (anonymously if you'd like) about the history of St. David's and Celtic roots. Your questions will help shape the discussion.



Parish News & Notes

Birthdays

Aug 16	Anna Suggs, Mike Reily
Aug 18	Sara Gehring
Aug 20	Norma Hendrix
Aug 22	Sam Neff

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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