

# The Coracle

St Davids Cullowhee



August 18, 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

Sat	Aug 17	Holy Conversation 10 am Valley Ballyhoo at WCU 4-6 pm
Sun	Aug 18	Pentecost 10 Holy Eucharist 11 am, <b>Blessing of the Backpacks</b> Book Study: <i>Prayers of the Cosmos</i>
Tue	Aug 20	Accessible Mindfulness 10 am
Sat	Aug 24	Yard Sale
Sun	Aug 25	Pentecost 11 Holy Eucharist 11 am Parish Reconciliation Meeting after church
Sun	Sep 1	Pentecost 12, Parish Meeting after church
Tue	Sep 3	Accessible Mindfulness 10 am
Sun	Sep 8	Pentecost 13, Book Study: <i>Prayers of the Cosmos</i>
Sun	Sep 15	Pentecost 14 Book Study <i>The Universal Christ</i>
Tue	Sep 17	Accessible Mindfulness 10 am
Sun	Sep 22	Pentecost 15 Book Study <i>The Universal Christ</i>
Sun	Sep 29	Pentecost 15 Book Study <i>The Universal Christ</i> , Soup & Bread Community Supper 5 pm
Fri	Nov 2	Fruit of the Vine Wine Event 6:30 pm

## Serving this Sunday

Chalice:

Reader: Muff Lyons

Music: Lillian Pearson

Coffee: Gael Graham

Readings: [Isaiah 5:1-7](#),  
[Psalm 80:1-2, 8-18](#), [Hebrews 11:29-12:2](#), [Luke 12:49-56](#)

## Serving during August

Flowers: Volunteer of the Week

Linen: Gerlinde Lindy

Communion: Karen & Harry Brown

Bread: John Slater

Greeters: Muff Lyons &

[Sermon Link](#)

**Blessing of the Backpacks is this Sunday. Bring yours, whatever it is, to be blessed.**

## Welcome!

We welcome The Rev. Nick McDonald as our supply priest again this week and we also welcome his wife, Jan.

## Book Study

Sunday, August 18<sup>th</sup>, we begin a two-week exploration of the book *Prayers of the Cosmos*. Betsy Swift has offered to be the facilitator. She would like to discuss the beginning of the book (pp 1-15) this week and the remainder of it on September 8<sup>th</sup> due to the community meetings after church on 8/25 and 9/1. The delay is ok as the book lends itself to prayerful reflection, and the time will be helpful.

## Holy Conversation Two

**Saturday, August 17<sup>th</sup>, at 10 am in The Gathering Place**

*Where the Spirit leads us...*

Come one, come all for brunch this Saturday, August 17<sup>th</sup>, at 10 am in The Gathering Place. Email Maggie at [magbowles@gmail.com](mailto:magbowles@gmail.com) to add your name to the list of participants if you have not already signed up. Thirty people attended the first Holy Conversation, and a wealth of information was gathered as input for the Parish Profile that your Discernment Committee is faithfully compiling.



## Valley Ballyhoo at WCU August 17<sup>th</sup>, 4-6 pm

Come if you can and help welcome WCU students. As most freshmen will pass through Valley Ballyhoo, this is our best chance to reach students interested in being involved with St. David's.



Your Vestry and Discernment Committee met together last Monday to plan upcoming Parish Meetings.

**From the Vestry**  
**Parish Reconciliation Meeting**  
**Sunday, August 25<sup>th</sup> after church**

The Discernment Committee and Vestry have considered the results of the Cat Survey in a joint meeting and listened closely to the Interpretation by Holy Cow Consultants. While clearly identifying our positives, it is also clear from the survey results that some parish reconciliation is needed. In the words of our consultants, "there is an on-going significant struggle within our congregation that is more than malaise, and points to the notion that St. David's has gone through a trauma beyond the transition process, and this has been a polarizing time." One area on the survey indicates that 56.2 % of respondents agree that there is a disturbing amount of conflict in our parish. Your Vestry believes that this needs to be addressed before progressing to the next steps in the search process. The good news is that, in the same section of the survey, 84.7% of respondents agree that our problems are solved through mutual effort, and 88.4% agree that we have a healthy tolerance for differing opinions. Therefore, your Vestry and Discernment Committee are hosting a meeting on Sunday, August 25<sup>th</sup>, right after church, for this conversation to occur. We are hoping that all will participate, particularly if you have unresolved feelings regarding our parish at this time. Please come even if you are not comfortable sharing in a large group; someone else is bound to say what you are thinking, and that can be helpful. Please come even if you are very positive about our current situation, as we need a full spectrum of understanding of where we are. We are hopeful that this conversation will be an important first step toward reconciliation, as we continue to work together on our rector search. We thank you in advance for participating.

Coffee hour will be incorporated into the conversation time. Please bring heavy hors d'oeuvres to share.

The sharing of the CAT Survey Summary and Interpretation meeting will still occur and has been moved to Sunday, September 1<sup>st</sup> after the regular church service.

Senior Warden, Judy Robinson  
Sandy Frazier  
Vance Davidson  
Steve Steinbrueck, Treasurer, is ex-officio to the vestry.

Junior Warden, Muff Lyons  
Gael Graham  
Jake Jacobson

## **Also, From the Vestry Financial Stewardship**

We have been busy over the past year investing time and effort in SEOL, the Stewardship of the Entirety of Our Lives. This included task forces and action steps in the areas of Worship, Christian Formation, Pastoral Care, and Mission & Outreach (please see St. David's website at [www.stdavidscullo Whee](http://www.stdavidscullo Whee) under Ministries to view what has been accomplished in these areas). A group of us also attended a seminar regarding our personal financial needs for wills/trusts as our own well-being is part of SEOL.

It is now time to consider the financial well-being of our church. Our Financial Stewardship Campaign for 2020 will take place this fall during September and October. We have moved it forward from the usual late fall campaign because we need to be able to commit to the salary of whomever we call as Rector, and the search begins this fall. We will be asking that each of us make our pledge for 2020 no later than the end of October. Please begin thinking about your hopes and dreams for the next phase of our dear St. David's as we move towards the end of this transition period, and how you can help fund those hopes and dreams. Your contributions will also support the very practical: electric bills, property and sanctuary upkeep, community use of the Gathering Place, and the continued pledge we have made to five local and one global ministering agencies. We thank you for beginning this thoughtful consideration.

### **Rector Search and Annual Giving**

As we begin our Financial Stewardship Appeal for 2020, we thought it would be important for you to know the costs of hiring a new Rector. These figures are based on conversation with the CFO of our Diocese and are as accurate as possible without our knowing the exact individual who will be our rector.

The range of salary for a ¾ time Rector for 2020 will be \$56,960–\$66,000. This range includes housing allowance, medical coverage for the Rector only (more if spouse/family coverage is needed), travel expenses, professional development, and a mandatory annual 18% of salary contribution to a pension fund. The lower end of the range would be for someone new out of seminary; the upper end of the range for someone with experience as Rector or Interim Rector.

In order to meet this expense, our annual giving must equal or hopefully exceed what has been pledged for 2019. Please consider this as you pray and discern your contribution to St. David's for 2020. Financial reports and vestry minutes are available on the [Vestry](#) page of the church website. Sign-in will be needed.

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### **Prayers by George Rector, Discernment Committee Chaplain**

Discernment Committee Meeting 8/12/2019

*Almighty God, we ask that you would teach us to understand your ways, and that we would respond with a willingness to learn. There is much which we do not see or know, but with patience and steadfastness we trust that we may more closely approach your truth. Let us look with faith to your holy inspiration with an assurance that, by following your will, our efforts will bear fruit. In the name of our Lord, Jesus Christ, we pray. Amen.*

*Almighty God, you have joined us together as one body. We pray, therefore, to act with singleness of purpose, so that our work may be done for You and not for ourselves. Let all our conversations and our decisions be guided by a desire to faithfully serve You and by a readiness to listen closely for your word. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit unless it is part of the vine, neither can our efforts be productive if we fail to follow your will. In the name of our Lord, Jesus Christ, we pray. Amen.*

Discernment Committee and Vestry Joint Meeting 8/12/2019

*Almighty God, let our work express a desire for unity and let our unity be established through a spirit of peace and cooperation. In all our dealings with one another we pray to act with humility and patience, to always search for your truth and to speak that truth with love. Let your love bind us together as a single heart and soul as we work to serve You, honor your creation and be faithful to the church. In the name of our Lord, Jesus Christ, we pray. Amen*

[\*\*Discernment Committee Prayer Collection by George Rector\*\*](#)

## Parish Administrator Search

We are currently searching for a new Parish Administrator. Kendra's last day will be August 17<sup>th</sup>. Please find the updated job description for this position linked on our website on the [Welcome](#) and [Contact Us](#) pages. You are invited to share the job description with those you think might be a good fit. I will be available to interview potential candidates upon my return from vacation, August 25<sup>th</sup>.

## Cemetery Committee

The Cemetery Committee welcomes Barbara Manke and Nancie Wilson as new members. They join Muff Lyons and Jake Jacobson on the committee that oversees upkeep of our historic cemetery.

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## St. David's Yard Sale

By Judy Robinson



St. David's Yard Sale will take place on Saturday, August 24<sup>th</sup>, 8 am-4 pm in The Gathering Place with some larger items outside. Please gather your donations and deliver them to us at the church on Friday, August 23<sup>rd</sup>, 10 am-3 pm. Items will be priced and arranged for display as they arrive on Friday. Members of the work team are George Rector, Joan Byrd, Donna Ross, Gerlinde Lindy, Pat Steinbrueck, Nancie Wilson, and Judy Robinson. Please be mindful of your donations. We are very grateful for them, but please bring items in good condition to sell. We are accepting household items of all types, jewelry, books, small furniture pieces, yard items, and tools. No clothing please. We will be advertising in the Sylva Herald and Smoky Mountain News, all over WCU campus, and with yard signs.

Contact Judy Robinson if you can help or with questions: [judyleroyrobinson@gmail.com](mailto:judyleroyrobinson@gmail.com)

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## Benefit Concert for Clean Slate

*Ubuntu of the Blue Ridge* and *One Heart* (formerly Franklin Ubuntu) will give a benefit concert for Clean Slate on Sunday, August 25<sup>th</sup>, at 3 pm at Cullowhee United Methodist Church. The concert is free; a collection will be taken up to support the work of Clean Slate.



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## Dine Around Photos Desired

Please take a photo when you attend a Dine Around so that your experience can be shared with the rest of the Parish. Send it to [magbowles@gmail.com](mailto:magbowles@gmail.com) or 803-920-9974.

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## Parish News & Notes

### Birthdays

Aug 18 **Sara Gehring, Chuck Bean**  
Aug 20 **Norma Hendrix**  
Aug 22 **Sam Neff**

### Anniversary

Aug 19 **Carole and Curtis Wood**

Condolences to the family of June Peacock (Heber's widow) who died this week.

For those who are interested, here is a link to Ron Robinson's motivational blog posts:

<https://www.landofskyadvisors.com/blog>

## Meditation Opportunities at St. David's

**Accessible Mindfulness: 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesdays, 10-11:15 am.** This is especially geared for those new to mindfulness meditation.

### Other Meditation Opportunities

**WCU Mindfulness and Meditation:** Thursdays at 4 pm 224 Bird Building. For details, call 227-7469 and ask for Michelle. To view a flyer, [please click here.](#)

**Mindfulness Meditation: 9:15 am on Thursdays** at Sylva Yoga above Lulu's on Main Street in downtown Sylva. Meditation gives students the opportunity to focus on the deep interconnection between mind and body, which can be experienced directly by practice in mindfulness.

### Virtual Closet

If you need medical-related equipment or have something you can offer, contact Claire Marsh: [clairemrsh@gmail.com](mailto:clairemrsh@gmail.com) 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 <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 Land Trust	Nov	to be determined
May	(general)	Dec	(general)
May-Jun-Jul-Aug-no Soup Suppers (general outreach)			

<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> Tuesdays	Accessible Mindfulness 10 am

## 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.

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

Website: [stdavidscullowhee.org](http://stdavidscullowhee.org)

[Lectionary Page 2019](#)

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 Members:**

Judy Robinson, Senior Warden

Muff Lyons, Junior Warden

Sandy Frazier—Gael Graham

Vance Davidson—Jake Jacobson