

# The Coracle

St Davids Cullowhee



August 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.

## A Message from Mother Gaelyn

August 9<sup>th</sup>, 2020

Dear friends,

This week the St. David's book group gathered to discuss June Smith's history of St. David's: "Do the Little Things That You Have Seen Me Do and Heard About." We had a lively discussion about the important people who made St. David's possible, including Rufus Morgan. As I was reading, I smiled at a statement the Rev. Morgan made to the people who had recently called him to be their rector at St. John's in Columbia, SC. June writes, "the congregation felt his first task was to pay off the debt on their new stone building and pipe organ. Rufus replied that the first task in any church was to build the spirit, and if that became vital enough, the money would take care of itself. (Morgan, in Smith, 55).

I was brought to mind of his statement while reading the Daily Office lectionary for Thursday of last week, "Gideon said to them, 'I will not rule over, and my son will not rule over you; the Lord will rule over you'" (Judges 8:23). It is the Lord's spirit who gives vitality to the church and its people. The Lord is always at our side, but also above us, guiding us as we labor together. As we read our history, we are looking back and also dreaming of our future. Our future where God rules over us as friend and guide ready to lead our ministry in this beautiful valley in which we are privileged to worship God, serve each other and our neighbors, and welcome both strangers and friends.

Peace and blessings,

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Mtr. Gaelyn will be working remotely next week, spending time with family and also participating in a Sermon Bootcamp Course with the Backstory Preaching Collective. You may still contact her via email at [rector@stdavidscullowhee.org](mailto:rector@stdavidscullowhee.org) or by phone at (828)331-1427.

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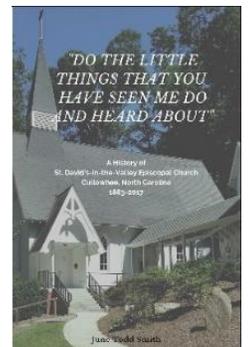
## Book Study and Discussion: Each Wednesday in August at 4 pm

[Zoom](#) with us as June Smith and guest facilitators discuss the early, mid and recent history of St. David's. Margot Wilcox will facilitate next Wednesday, then Marilyn Jody on August 19<sup>th</sup> and finally The Rev. Elizabeth Canham for the Celtic spirituality section on August 26<sup>th</sup>. Here is the link for the recording of the first meeting:

<https://youtu.be/SfGts7hLOD0>

Copies are available at City Lights Bookstore: "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, North Carolina 1883-2017 by June Todd Smith.

[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.



## Happening this week:

Monday Evening Prayer Rite II on the Deck at 5 pm

✦ Sign-up [HERE](#).

✦ or email **Mtr. Gaelyn** or call her at (828)-331-1427

Wednesday Morning Prayer Rite I via [Zoom](#) at 9:30 am

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## Service Information for the Tenth Sunday of Pentecost

### Sunday Service Online

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

### [Bulletin](#)

### Serving this Sunday

Lector: June Smith

Intercessors: Judy Robinson and Margot Wilcox

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](#)

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## Call for Virtual Ushers

Would you like to help St. David's virtually? Sign up to be a virtual usher. In this position, you would log onto Zoom at 10:30 as a host. You would host the pre-service gathering and the post-service coffee hour. During the service, you would share the livestream through Zoom. Training is easy and will be provided. All you need is familiarity with Zoom and a good internet connection. To sign up for a Sunday, please go to this link:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0c4caca828aafc1-stdavids>

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## News from Vecinos

Muff Lyons passed along this update from her contact at Vecinos: "Hello Muff! Thank you for reaching out. Thankfully, all of the farmworkers have now been cleared and are working long hours since they were released from isolation. We are super grateful that no one had to go to the hospital and that their symptoms were able to be controlled with certain medications. They guys and their boss are so thankful for the community coming together and helping them out during this difficult time."

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## Parish News & Notes

### Birthdays

Aug 9

**Joan Byrd**

Aug 12

**Sara Addison**

Aug 13

**Randi Neff**

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Prayers for a speedy recovery to Kendra Graham who had surgery on her back last week.

**For a Little Levity on a Slow News Week....Passed Along by June Smith  
Garrison Keillor on Episcopalians: An essay:**

We make fun of Episcopalians for their blandness, their excessive calm, their fear of giving offense, their lack of speed and also for their secret fondness for macaroni and cheese. But nobody sings like them.

If you were to ask an audience in Des Moines, a relatively Episcopalianless place, to sing along on the chorus of "Michael Row the Boat Ashore," they will look daggers at you as if you had asked them to strip to their underwear. But if you do this among Episcopalians, they'd smile and row that boat ashore and up on the beach! ....And down the road!

Many Episcopalians are bred from childhood to sing in four-part harmony, a talent that comes from sitting on the lap of someone singing alto or tenor or bass and hearing the harmonic intervals by putting your little head against that person's rib cage. It's natural for Episcopalians to sing in harmony. We are too modest to be soloists, too worldly to sing in unison. When you're singing in the key of C and you slide into the A7th and D7th chords, all two hundred of you, it's an emotionally fulfilling moment. By our joining in harmony, we somehow promise that we will not forsake each other.

I do believe this, people: Episcopalians, who love to sing in four-part harmony are the sort of people you could call up when you're in deep distress. If you are dying, they will comfort you. If you are lonely, they'll talk to you. And if you are hungry, they'll give you tuna salad!

Episcopalians believe in prayer but would practically die if asked to pray out loud. Episcopalians like to sing, except when confronted with a new hymn or a hymn with more than four stanzas. Episcopalians believe their Rectors will visit them in the hospital, even if they don't notify them that they are there.

Episcopalians usually follow the official liturgy and will feel it is their way of suffering for their sins. Episcopalians believe in miracles and even expect miracles, especially during their stewardship visitation programs or when passing the plate. Episcopalians feel that applauding for their children's choirs will not make the kids too proud and conceited. Episcopalians think that the Bible forbids them from crossing the aisle while passing the peace.

Episcopalians drink coffee as if it were the Third Sacrament. Episcopalians feel guilty for not staying to clean up after their own wedding reception in the Fellowship Hall. Episcopalians are willing to pay up to one dollar for a meal at church. Episcopalians still serve Jell-O in the proper liturgical color of the season and Episcopalians believe that it is OK to poke fun at themselves and never take themselves too seriously.

And finally, you know you are an Episcopalian when:

- It's 100 degrees, with 90% humidity, and you still have coffee after the service.
- You hear something really funny during the sermon and smile as loudly as you can.
- Donuts are a line item in the church budget, just like coffee.
- When you watch a Star Wars movie and they say, "May the Force be with you," and you respond, "and also with you."
- And lastly, it takes ten minutes to say good-bye . . . .

(NOTE: Garrison Keillor attends St. John the Evangelist Episcopal Church in St. Paul, Minnesota)

Of course, this was written in the good old days.

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

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

[St. D's Public Facebook Page](#)

[St. D's Private Group Forum](#)

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[Lake Logan Conference Center](#)

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