

# The Coracle

St Davids Cullowhee



January 7, 2018

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	Jan 6	Monthly Mindfulness 10 am
Sun	Jan 7	Epiphany 1 Bishop José Celebrates <b>Church service will be at 11:30 am</b> Vestry meet with Bishop 1:45 pm
Tue	Jan 9	Vestry Meeting 5:30 pm
Sun	Jan 14	Epiphany 2, Rice & Beans Sunday, loose offering benefits Clean Slate
Tue	Jan 16	Accessible Mindfulness 10 am
Sun	Jan 21	Epiphany 3
Sun	Jan 28	Epiphany 4 Congregational Meeting following church, Soup & Bread Supper 5:30 pm

**Childcare is available during the church service.**

## Serving this Sunday

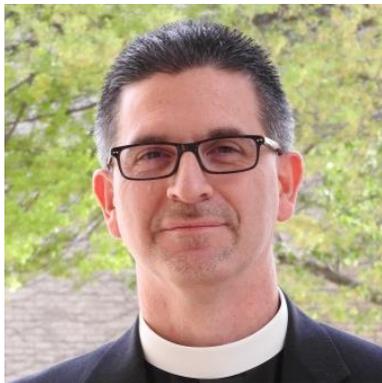
Chalice: Todd Vinyard  
Reader: Muff Lyons  
Coffee: ALL  
Music: Nan Watkins  
Readings: [Genesis 1:1-5](#),  
[Acts 19:1-7](#), [Psalm 29](#)  
[Mark 1:4-11](#),

## Serving during January

Bread: Jane Coburn  
Flowers: Margot Wilcox  
Linen: Faye Jacobson  
Eucharist: Gracia Slater &  
Margot Wilcox  
Greeters: Jake Jacobson &  
Jane Coburn

**Everyone please bring a food item to share at Coffee Hour this Sunday!**

## January 7<sup>th</sup>, 2018, 11:30 am



This first Sunday in January, we welcome Bishop José for our first service of the new year.

To better accommodate his travel schedule, **the service will be at 11:30 am**. Bishop José has quite a busy day Sunday as he will be at St. John's Sylva to confirm their new communicants at 8:45 am. The planned service for this was postponed because of the December snow storm. He will also meet with the vestry of St. David's following the reception after our service.

The loose offering traditionally goes to the Bishop's discretionary fund when the Bishop visits.

## Welcome to Our New Interim Rector!

By Steve Steinbrueck

The Bishop of Western North Carolina and the vestry of St. David's Episcopal Church, Cullowhee, are pleased to announce the appointment of The Rev. Dr. Valori Mulvey Sherer to serve as interim rector of St. David's beginning January 14<sup>th</sup>, 2018. We are very excited to welcome her to our church family. In the article below, she introduces herself to us.

## Greetings!

By the Rev. Dr. Valori Mulvey Sherer

Christmastide greetings from your newest family members: the Sherers! Steve and I are excited about my call to St. David's to serve as interim rector for the next season of our lives. The current plan is for me to be in Cullowhee, where I've taken an apartment, Sundays through Wednesdays, but please know: this isn't cast in stone, and we'll do what works best for St. David's as that becomes clear.

I want to take this opportunity to tell you a little about myself, and since the details of my background and experience can be found on my website ([www.valorimsherer.com](http://www.valorimsherer.com)), I won't list those here. Instead, I feel inspired to reflect on the amazing, loving God who led us to live and serve together.

I knew early on in my discernment for priesthood that I wanted to serve as a rector, but only for a time. I felt even then that God was calling me to another kind of priestly ministry, one I would discover at the proper time. This is that time.

I served in parish ministry for ten years in the Diocese of Western Michigan and here in Western North Carolina. At the completion of my last rectorate, I took a one-year sabbatical to empty myself of expectations and plans and open space for the Holy Spirit to lead me. A few months into that sabbatical, I was invited to enter into a partnership which became The Partnership for Renewal. The excitement and passion I experienced in my work with PFR clarified that God was calling me to a new form of priestly ministry—a hybrid which takes the shape of interim ministry plus my consulting work, retreats/workshops, and spiritual direction enabling me to serve both in a parish and beyond. I took both trainings for interim ministry and continue in a weekly interim minister's support teleconference.

I also used my sabbatical time to help my flutist daughter fulfill her lifelong dream of starting a non-profit providing quality instruments and instruction to students who lack the financial resources for them. We successfully birthed The Play It Forward Scholarship Program in Atlanta (linked on my website) and I continue to support this non-profit as Development Director.

My role as your interim will be to discover and celebrate with you how you came to be who you are now. We will mourn together the loss of the daily presence of our dear colleague in ministry, Michael, while we celebrate his many gifts to St. David's. We will also dream and listen for the divine purpose to which God is presently calling St. David's. We will do this prayerfully and by utilizing the resources and relationships available to us through the diocese as well as in our community. Building upon the leadership already present in the congregation, we will identify and welcome new gifts and skills both present as well as those to be developed for the future of St. David's. We will also share the regular rhythms of worship, pastoral care, fellowship, and forming ourselves as Christians. Finally, when the time is right, we will each do our part as you prepare to search for a new rector. We have much to do together and all the time, support, and resources we need to do it!

I'd like to hit the ground running, and my first priority will be to get to know each of you. Similar to our bishop's road tour last year, I'd like to do a "parish member tour" visiting with each one of you, so please take a look at your calendars and let's get ready to schedule our time as soon as I arrive.

Thank you for inviting me to journey with you and thanks be to God for joy we will share serving together!



Top right photo: David and Steve; bottom right: Katherine, Patrick, Jessica

Valori+

## Call for Vestry Nominations

As we look forward to 2018 it's time to select one new Vestry member for a three-year term. Anyone interested in serving in this role may self-nominate by notifying Steve Steinbrueck no later than Sunday, January 21<sup>st</sup>. You may nominate someone else with their permission. The election will take place at the congregational meeting on January 28<sup>th</sup>.

### Congregational Meeting

January 28<sup>th</sup>, 2018

Please plan to stay after church on January 28<sup>th</sup> for a short congregational meeting. We will elect one new Vestry member, receive brief reports, and discuss the 2018 budget.

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### Coming in 2018

#### *Dine Around!*

By Pat Steinbrueck



*Dine Around* with us in 2018! Groups of six or so will gather and share a meal on a monthly basis, rotating hosting duties among the group members. The groups will be rearranged on a quarterly basis, providing us with the opportunity to break bread with lots of different folks. More details will follow. Please email Pat Steinbrueck at [patsteinbrueck@gmail.com](mailto:patsteinbrueck@gmail.com) or speak to her in church if you interested.

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### Altar Guild

By Judy Robinson

Happy New Year Everyone! The St. David's Altar Guild would like to invite you to join our group if you are not already a member. Youth, women and men are all welcome. There are four committees of the Altar Guild. Here is a summary to help you know how you might be interested in participating:

**Holy Communion Committee:** prepare the altar for Sunday service; including hangings, linen, chalice and all other items needed for communion.

**Flower Committee:** Choose and arrange altar flowers. We usually have fresh flowers each week, which may be bought or picked from gardens or the woods and fields.

**Linens Committee:** Laundering and ironing of linens used for services. May sometimes include vestments as well.

**Bread Committee:** We currently have several volunteers who bake our communion bread. We have a great recipe for anyone interested. It is usually delivered Sunday before the service.



There will be a copy of the Altar Guild Handbook at the back of church from January 4<sup>th</sup>-January 11<sup>th</sup> so you can see details of each task. Flowers are usually assigned by the month (YOU choose which month) and the other tasks can be by month or weeks. Once everyone shares what they want to do and when, we create a yearly calendar. Altar Guild members are happy to train anyone on these tasks. It is easy to arrange for a sub from your committee if something unexpected comes up, though we are usually very good at sticking to the calendar.

**Please respond to this request by January 15<sup>th</sup>, so we can assemble the altar guild calendar for 2018.** Let us know which committee you are interested in and which weeks or months you would be available. If you have questions, please email Judy Robinson at [judyleroyrobinson@gmail.com](mailto:judyleroyrobinson@gmail.com)

Please join us! We would love to have some new participants. Thank you and blessings for 2018.

# Parish News & Notes

## Birthday

Jan 10 Heidi Dinkelmeyer

Michael Hudson's personal email address is now [connorroad@gmail.com](mailto:connorroad@gmail.com). The current church email address remains the same and will be monitored by the senior warden until the new interim rector takes over.



Special thanks to Muff Lyons for organizing the “degreening” of the church and to volunteers George and Joan Rector, Gerlinde Lindy, Betsy Swift, and Maggie Bowles for helping with the task.

### 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.

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

Website: <http://www.st-davids.org/> [Lectionary Page 2018](#)

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

Church phone # and email: 828-331-1427

[stdavids1879@gmail.com](mailto:stdavids1879@gmail.com)

Mailing address: PO Box 152, Cullowhee, NC 28723

[Altar Guild Schedule 2017](#)

[2017 Greeter Schedule](#)

### 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)

### 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.

**Monthly Mindfulness:** First Saturday of each month from 10 am until noon in the Parish Hall.

### 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.](#)

The **Tuesday Meditation Group will not meet during June, July, and August.** In September, it will resume meeting in the undercroft at St. John's Episcopal Church in downtown Sylva on the **2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesdays at 1 pm.** The format is to meditate for 15 minutes at the beginning and 15 minutes at the end. The inspirational material for the half hour in between will be decided by whoever volunteers to facilitate that week.

**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.

<b>Regular Activities</b>	Mondays 9-10:30 am	Centering Yoga
	Mondays 10:30 am	Cullowhee Men's Group
	Tuesdays & Thursdays 6:30 am	Sunrise Strength Flow Yoga
	1 <sup>st</sup> & 3 <sup>rd</sup> Tuesdays	Accessible Mindfulness
	1 <sup>st</sup> Wednesdays 6:30 pm	Indivisible/Common Ground
	1 <sup>st</sup> Saturdays 10 am	Monthly Mindfulness
Last Sundays 5-7 pm Sept-May	Soup/Bread Community Supper	