

The Coracle

St Davids Cullowhee



January 14, 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

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
Sat	Feb 3	Monthly Mindfulness 10 am
Sun	Feb 4	Epiphany 5
Tue	Feb 6	Accessible Mindfulness 10 am
Sun	Feb 11	Epiphany 6
Wed	Feb 14	Ash Wednesday
Sun	Feb 18	Lent 1
Tue	Feb 20	Accessible Mindfulness 10 am
Sun	Feb 25	Lent 2

Serving this Sunday

Chalice: Newt Smith

Reader: June Smith

Coffee: ALL

Music: Nan Watkins

Readings: [1 Samuel 3:1-10\(11-20\)](#),

[1 Corinthians 6:12-20](#), [John 1:43-51](#),

[Psalm 139:1-5, 12-17](#)

Serving during January

Bread: Jane Coburn

Flowers: Margot Wilcox

Linen: Faye Jacobson

Eucharist: Gracia Slater &

Margot Wilcox

Greeters: Jake Jacobson &

Jane Coburn

Childcare is available during the church service.

The Gospel

John 1:43-51

Jesus decided to go to Galilee. He found Philip and said to him, "Follow me." Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. Philip found Nathanael and said to him, "We have found him about whom Moses in the law and also the prophets wrote, Jesus son of Joseph from Nazareth." Nathanael said to him, "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?" Philip said to him, "Come and see." When Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward him, he said of him, "Here is truly an Israelite in whom there is no deceit!" Nathanael asked him, "Where did you get to know me?" Jesus answered, "I saw you under the fig tree before Philip called you." Nathanael replied, "Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!" Jesus answered, "Do you believe because I told you that I saw you under the fig tree? You will see greater things than these." And he said to him, "Very truly, I tell you, you will see heaven opened and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man."



Welcome Valori!

This Sunday The Rev. Dr. Valori Mulvey Sherer will begin her service as interim rector of St. David's. We welcome her at this exciting time in our church history.

Fruit That Lasts

By the Rev. Dr. Valori Mulvey Sherer

I remember the first time I heard my daughter play Bach's *Air on the G string* on her flute. She was nine years old, playing at a wedding (her first professional gig), but the sound she made with that flute was like angels singing, and I was overwhelmed by joy. I could feel it rushing through my whole body. I realized that day that an important gift had been given into my care, and I committed to doing whatever was needed to nurture it and bring it to fruition.

I believed that my daughter's gift was from God, would glorify God, and would never cease to bring me joy. I was right on all counts. That day was for me, an Epiphany, and I was forever changed by it.



I remember also my first visit to St. David's as a supply priest just a few months ago. I was told that the children would come forward to have their rice and beans blessed, but I wasn't sure what that meant. I figured I'd just go with the flow and find out. When the children brought their gifts to be blessed, I asked one of them what this was for. She replied, "For the people who are hungry." Others affirmed her statement. I realized that this was their ministry, and it meant a lot to them to be able to offer these gifts. Their hearts were wide open, and generosity shone forth from each face like a light from heaven. My heart melted with gratitude, and my eyes filled with tears of joy. In discussions afterwards, I heard the adults in the congregation voice their commitment to nurturing the gifts of their children in ministry.

This is just one instance of the fruit Jesus was talking when he said: "You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last..." (Jn 15:16).

Next week we begin a new chapter together in the story of St. David's Episcopal Church. Our prayerful discernment has affirmed for us that God is calling us to serve together to discover and nurture the gifts God has graciously given and is waiting to give, that we might bear fruit that lasts.

We will begin our time together with a memorial service for a beloved member. While this is a very sad event, it offers us a gift—as does everything in the realm of God. Gathering to celebrate the life of a beloved friend, we remember the promises Jesus made: that he abides in us and we in him; that death is not the end of life, but a gateway into new life, resurrection life; that we are sanctified by Word and sacrament and, at the last day, we will be with God and all the saints in heaven in the joy of God's eternal kingdom; and that we are bearers of this Good News to all peoples, nations, and languages who are created by and beloved of God.

What a lovely first fruit to bear together: to proclaim the hope of eternal life in the love of Jesus Christ.

Valori +



Rest in Peace, Susan Metcalf

Family and friends are mourning the loss of Susan Metcalf who died unexpectedly over the holidays. Though only occasionally seen at Sunday church services, behind the scenes Susan was actively involved, serving for many years as clerk of vestry and more recently volunteering to stain the new deck railings and helping with painting the inside of the second floor of the Parish Hall.



Memorials may be made to ARF or Catman 2. Time and details for the memorial service will be announced once they are finalized.

Vestry Notes

By Steve Steinbrueck

During its January 9th meeting, the Vestry:

- ✧ Selected Betsy Swift as the Senior Warden for 2018.
- ✧ Learned that we ended 2017 in the black!
- ✧ Agreed to continue working according to the 2017 budget (but using clergy compensation numbers that reflect the agreement with the interim rector) until the 2018 budget is approved.
- ✧ Planned to participate in the inaugural meeting of the Finance Committee on January 14th.
- ✧ As desired by Michael, directed that a portion of the funds that remained in his discretionary account be used to support the memorial scholarship fund established in Alice Mason's name.
- ✧ Agreed to ask Vestry candidates if they would like to write a short statement regarding their thoughts on Vestry service for inclusion in the Coracle the week before the congregational meeting and election on January 28th.
- ✧ Received an update about pending changes to the church's telephone and email accounts.
- ✧ Approved an agreement with Geno's for semi-annual inspections and servicing of HVAC equipment.
- ✧ Discussed future coordination of childcare.

Copies of approved Vestry Minutes, Financial Statements, and Annual Audit Reports are available on the website.

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 21st. You may nominate someone else with their permission. Candidates may submit a short statement regarding their thoughts on Vestry service for inclusion in the Coracle the week before the congregational meeting and election on January 28th.

Congregational Meeting

January 28th, 2018

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

Dine Around!



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 or speak to her in church if you interested.

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 4th-January 11th 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 15th, 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

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



Parish News & Notes

Birthdays

Jan 20 **Chris Wilcox, Elliot Reisinger**
Jan 21 **Charles Pringle**

Anniversary

Jan 19 **Harry & Karen Brown**

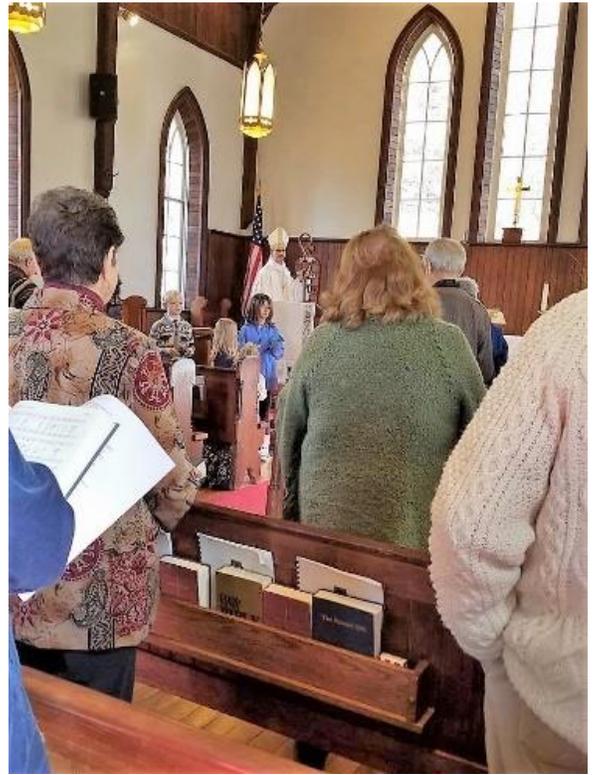
Rosa and Mike Reily have a grandchild, their first! Reece Arden Reily was born on December 22nd, 2017 to Jodi Bromm and Joe Reily in Ft. Worth, TX. Joe is now deployed to Asia with the U.S. Marine Corps.



There clearly were mice (church mice, that is) loose in the kitchen last Sunday when Muff and the other vestry members went upstairs to meet with the Bishop. The kitchen was all cleaned up when we got back downstairs after the meeting. Many thanks!

The Bishop Visits

Bishop José and his wife Laurel visited St. David's last Sunday. Anna Suggs presented the bishop with a special drawing she made for him.





Regular Activities	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 st & 3 rd Tuesdays	Accessible Mindfulness
	1 st Wednesdays 6:30 pm	Indivisible/Common Ground
	1 st Saturdays 10 am	Monthly Mindfulness
	Last Sundays 5-7 pm Sept-May	Soup/Bread Community Supper

Virtual Closet

If you need medical-related equipment or have something you can offer, contact Claire Marsh: 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.

Meditation Opportunities at St. David's

Accessible Mindfulness: 1st and 3rd 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 **2nd & 4th 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.

St. David's Links and Contact Information:

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

Newsletter editor: Maggie Bowles: magbowles@gmail.com

Church phone # and email: 828-331-1427

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

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[Camp Henry Facebook page](#)

www.lakelogan.org