

The Coracle

St Davids Cullowhee



January 28, 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 28	Epiphany 4 Children: Superhero activity Congregational Meeting following church Soup & Bread Supper 5:30 pm
Sat	Feb 3	Monthly Mindfulness 10 am
Sun	Feb 4	Epiphany 5 1 st Sunday Collection for Community Table
Tue	Feb 6	Accessible Mindfulness 10 am
Sun	Feb 11	Epiphany 6 Rice & Beans Sunday
Tue	Feb 13	Vestry Meeting 5:30 pm
Wed	Feb 14	Ash Wednesday
Sun	Feb 18	Lent 1
Tue	Feb 20	Accessible Mindfulness 10 am
Sun	Feb 25	Lent 2 Children: Meditation with Jane Soup & Bread Community Supper 5-7 pm
Thu	Mar 1	St. David's Day
Sat	Mar 3	Monthly Mindfulness 10 am
Sun	Mar 4	Lent 3 1 st Sunday Collection for Good Samaritan
Tue	Mar 6	Accessible Mindfulness 10 am
Sun	Mar 11	Lent 4
Tue	Mar 13	Vestry Meeting 5:30 am
Sun	Mar 18	Lent 5
Tue	Mar 20	Accessible Mindfulness 10 am
Sun	Mar 25	Palm Sunday Soup & Bread Community supper 5-7 pm
Sun	Apr 1	Easter

Serving this Sunday

Chalice: Todd Vinyard
Reader: Paul Cooper
Coffee: ALL
Music: Nan Watkins
Readings: [Deuteronomy 18:15-20](#), [1 Corinthians 8:1-13](#), [Mark 1:21-28](#),
[Psalm 111](#)

Serving during January

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

Serving during February

Bread: Wesley Satterwhite
Flowers: Judy Robinson
Linen: Nan Watkins
Eucharist: Linda Kinnear & June
Smith
Greeters: John & Gracia Slater

Childcare is available during the church service.

The Gospel

Mark 1:21-28

Jesus and his disciples went to Capernaum; and when the sabbath came, he entered the synagogue and taught. They were astounded at his teaching, for he taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes. Just then there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit, and he cried out, "What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are, the Holy One of God." But Jesus rebuked him, saying, "Be silent, and come out of him!" And the unclean spirit, convulsing him and crying with a loud voice, came out of him. They were all amazed, and they kept on asking one another, "What is this? A new teaching—with authority! He commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey him." At once his fame began to spread throughout the surrounding region of Galilee.

Endlessly Treasured

By The Rev. Dr. Valori Mulvey Sherer

Medieval saint Julian of Norwich once said: “For our soul is so deeply grounded in God and so endlessly treasured that we cannot come to knowledge of it, until we first have knowledge of God, who is the creator to whom it is united. For our soul sits in God in true rest, and our soul stands in God in sure strength, and our soul is naturally rooted in God's endless love.”

Knowing our own soul and our relationship to God and one another is what St. Paul is talking about when he says, “we have the mind of Christ.” Priest and theologian Jim Marion says that this Christ Consciousness “is the goal of the Christian path.”

In Jesus we witness a beloved life lived in the world. No matter how the world reacted to him or treated him Jesus maintained a consciousness of love and mercy even forgiving his executors from the cross on which they hanged him. Jesus showed us that Christ consciousness takes us beyond obedience *to* the law to fulfillment *of* the law of love which forgives, restores, and reconciles all the world to God.

Using images of salt and light in the gospel from Matthew, Jesus teaches us that we are a commodity of great value. Salt was not only used to enhance the flavor of food but also to preserve it, which often meant preserving life. Then Jesus concluded his teaching with this powerful statement: You are the light of the world – something he said about himself!

The sad reality is that many people don't know or experience the truth that each one of us is endlessly treasured by God. The world is far too ready to make us believe otherwise.

Recognizing the truth of our belovedness as individuals is an important first step, but it must lead us to the second step: recognizing everyone else's belovedness too. When that happens, we are living in Christ consciousness, and it is as theologian Henri Nouwen says: “Every time we encounter one another we are offered an occasion to encounter the sacred.”

Forming ourselves to live in Christ consciousness and encounter the sacred in ourselves, one another, and the world Jesus died to save is the goal of Christian formation. It's so much more than Sunday school classes and creative programming. I hope we'll all ponder this and open ourselves to how the Spirit of God is leading us to deeper and more expansive Christian formation opportunities. Don't worry, I have some ideas, but I'm counting on God to show us the way to go as a community. My Parish Tour visits are revealing many, many gifts present in this community. Let's listen together. I'm holding this in prayer.



Liturgical Ministries Training Coming Your Way

In the Episcopal Church, some of our ministries are licensed, and St. David's needs to get those updated. Therefore, a liturgical ministries training is also in the works now. ALL AGES are invited to learn how to serve in our worship service. Some of the ways to serve include: crucifer (cross bearer), torch bearer (processes with the big candles), gospeller (carries the gospel book and holds it while the priest reads the gospel), acolyte (helps the priest at the altar), lector (reads the Scripture), greeter (welcomes people, hands out bulletins, counts people for Register of Services). Licensed ministries include: Eucharistic Minister (a.k.a. Chalice bearer), Lay Eucharistic Visitor (takes communion to home-bound or hospital), Lay Reader (able to preach and conduct lay offices such as Morning Prayer, Evening Prayer, etc.).

Parish Tour Continues

Editor's note: Valori announced during her first Sunday service here that she would like to visit with each person or family in the parish. Her email address is interimvmsherer@gmail.com. Please contact her to set up a time to meet. She has prepared a sheet to bring with her to the meetings to guide the discussion which you can preview here: [Parish Tour Info Sheet](#).

Inquirer's Class to be Offered

At my initial "Parish Tour" meetings, a few of you have expressed interest in an Inquirer's Class. We have a couple of people ready to prepare for Confirmation, and others who may want Reaffirmation. Still others just want to be part of the fun! All are welcome. I have a syllabus and class schedule ready. All we need is to choose dates and times. No need to wait, we can get this rolling pretty quickly, so please let me know what dates and times work in general, e.g., Mondays at 7pm, or Sundays at 3pm. I'm here Sundays through Wednesday morning, and my time is your time! Email me at: interimvmsherer@gmail.com

Faithfully,



Annual Meeting and Vestry Elections

January 28th, 2018

During the congregational meeting on Sunday, we will hear brief reports from the Altar Guild, Cemetery Committee, Treasurer, and Senior Warden. The Treasurer's report will include the proposed 2018 budget. Please look these reports by accessing the links found below. As part of our ongoing efforts to be more environmentally responsible, paper copies will not be handed out at the meeting.

[Cemetery Report 2017](#) [2018 Budget Worksheet](#) [Treasurer's notes](#) [Altar Guild Report](#)
[Altar Guild Financial Report](#) Links for other reports will be added as they come in. There are links for these reports on the *Happening Now* and the *documents* pages of the website.

We will also elect one member to the Vestry. The following statements of interest are from the candidates.

Sandy Frazier

Ten years ago, I was very active in the life of St. David's Parish. I attended church regularly, served on committees, served on the Vestry, (one year as Junior Warden and two years as Senior Warden). I led mission groups to Panama to work with the indigenous communities, and went on Pilgrimages. The last few years life has caught up to me and more or less smothered me. A part-time job became full time and living in Franklin made it very difficult to participate in parish activities. As of the end of 2017, I am now fully retired and ready to once again take a place in the leadership of the congregation. This upcoming year will be one of great challenges and even greater opportunities for our congregation and the Vestry. I want to be part of that, The Spirit allowing.

Judy LeRoy Robinson

I have been a member of St. David's parish for 15 years, and Ron (my husband), and I were married at St. David's ten and a half years ago. St. David's is my spiritual home, the source of many dear friendships, and a cornerstone of my life in our beautiful mountains. I am a newly retired clinical social worker and professor of Social Work, having professional communication skills which I think translate well into serving our community on the Vestry. In this year of discernment and change, I believe the most important thing for a vestry member is outreach and listening to as many parish members as possible regarding the choice of a new rector and future directions for our church, and to work positively and open-heartedly with Dr. Valori Sherer, our interim rector. I agree with what other parish members have recently voiced as areas needing attention and action: work towards becoming the Episcopal home for students, faculty and staff at WCU; work to increase parish membership of all ages, but particularly with younger

families and youth; develop a more coordinated and wider parish member participation in our community outreach projects. During the past year, I have been involved with pleasure in the following activities at St David's: Altar Guild member, including flower arrangements, organizing the task calendar and polishing brass; coordinating the parish garage sale; coordinating the making of the Advent Wreath; lay reflector during Advent; assisted with the children's parish anniversary play; cooking for and eating at Soup Suppers; providing treats for Sunday coffee hour; attended parish luncheon with the Bishop; and contributions to Rice & Beans. Thank you for considering my candidacy and for enhancing my life through our wonderful church family.

Nancie Wilson

I'd like to serve on the vestry at St. David's because I have a vital interest in how the parish will grow, prosper and serve our community in the coming years. Vestry service is a privilege as the vestry represents the parish membership and makes decisions on behalf of that membership. My four years of service on the Diocesan Executive Council, which is the "vestry for the diocese," will enable me to offer that experience to St. David's.



January 28th is Superhero Sunday

It's getting closer: St. David's Super Hero Kids will use their Super Heart Powers on Sunday January 28th as we pack welcome-back treat bags for the WCU students/faculty who park in the lower lot during the week.

Each Super Kid will get a cape and mask to take home with them. Please confirm if your Super Kid will attend so that I can plan accordingly. centeringyoganc@gmail.com or respond on the Facebook page.

Soup and Bread Community Supper

Sunday January 28th 5-7 pm

As always, ALL in the community are welcome! Invite friends! Donations will be accepted for Clean Slate.



If you are planning to bring soup and/or bread, please contact Wesley Satterwhite at wesleysatterwhite@hotmail.com or (828) 200-4363. You do not have to bring soup to:

Come! Eat! Enjoy!



Communication Is Key



In person, by phone, email, Facebook, instant messaging, it is important for us all to keep in touch and spread the word. The church has a public Facebook page, [Saint David's Episcopal Cullowhee](#), which is being used by a number of people now for quick communication. There is also a closed-group page which the parents and friends of the children use to communicate and make plans., [St. David's Children](#). Check them out!

From the Diocese



Episcopal Diocese of Western North Carolina

January 23, 2018

My Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

On January 22, Presiding Bishop Michael Curry and the Rev. Gay Clark Jennings, president of the House of Deputies, called on all people to examine and repent the many ways in which our Church has been complicit in the marginalization and victimization of women.

In [the letter](#), they write, "As our societies have been forced into fresh recognition that women in all walks of life have suffered unspoken trauma at the hands of male aggressors and harassers, we have become convinced that the Episcopal Church must work even harder to create a church that is not simply safe, but holy, humane and decent."

Indeed, our Lord counted among his disciples several women, and the Gospels record that women were the first to encounter the resurrected Jesus and were the first evangelists. Clearly, he honored, valued and empowered women as vital participating members of his community. As such we, too, are called to advocate for the safety, protection and equality of all women and girls, our sisters in Christ.

I therefore invite everyone to read and reflect on Bishop Curry and the Rev. Jennings's [letter](#) and then to talk about the implications for our ministry and mission in your parish. It is my hope that we all take part in an Ash Wednesday Day of Prayer on February 14, "devoted to meditating on the ways in which we in the church have failed to stand with women and other victims of abuse and harassment and to consider, as part of our Lenten disciplines, how we can redouble our work to be communities of safety that stand against the spiritual and physical violence of sexual exploitation and abuse."

It is so very important that we join in prayerful reflection and recommit ourselves to the holy work of standing up against and eradicating exploitation and abuse of all God's children.

Faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "José A. McLoughlin". The signature is written in a cursive style with a small cross at the beginning.

The Rt. Rev. José A. McLoughlin
VII Bishop of Western North Carolina

Parish News & Notes

Condolences to the family of Hal Farwell who passed away in his sleep on Wednesday.

Wishing a speedy recovery to Kendra Graham as she recovers from surgery on her shoulder.

Michael Despeaux's Dad, Mike, had a mild heart attack last weekend and his cardiologist suggested that he go on a vegan diet. Sloan is asking if the St. David's cooks have some tried and true vegan recipes they would share with the Despeauxs. despeaux@email.wcu.edu



Jackson Neighbors in Need

828.586.2345

Charlie's Challenge A Fundraiser for Neighbors In Need

By Judy Annis

It is time for Jackson Neighbors In Need annual fund-raising dinner, Charlie's Challenge. The meal will once again be provided by Chef Randy of Harrah's Cherokee Casino and Resort. There is no charge for the dinner but donations are happily accepted. Jackson Neighbors In Need major focus is providing heating assistance for our neighbors when they do not qualify for any other help. Last winter season we were able to help 90 families and we spent \$20,400. Because we are no longer managing the cold weather shelter we have added a new area of funding. We now are able to offer help when a family/individual experiences a small economic crisis or "bump in the road" that they do not have the funds to pay for. We have been keeping a record of people's unmet needs that no agency can fund and we decided that we could help. For example, a person needs a new car battery but he/she does not have enough money to pay for it. Not getting the battery could result in not being able to get to work and thus the loss of a job. We have learned that many times it is the small things that lead to huge catastrophes.

All of you are invited to attend. Please RSVP to me at jannis@dnet.net. We have always had several tables of St. David's members. The dinner is at the Mission and Fellowship Hall of the First Baptist Church at 6 pm on Saturday Jan. 27th. Once again, we will have terrific raffle items and an auction of amazing cakes.

Please plan to come. It is a fun event and the money raised really helps our neighbors.



Robotics State Tournament

Congratulations to all of the St. David's families who participated in the FIRST Lego Leagues Hydro-Dynamics robotics competition at the state level this past weekend at NC A&T University. St. David's was well represented with Abel Despeaux and coach Sloan on team Narwhal Nation; Owen Yanik and coach Paul on team Lego Lords; Josh Vinyard and Heidi Dinklemeyer and coach Brian on team Minifigures. Kudos to parent volunteers Wesley and Todd for working the event, as well.

FIRST means For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology. In FIRST Lego Leagues,

elementary and middle school kids grades 4-8 research a real-world engineering challenge (each year around a different theme), develop a solution, and compete with Lego-based robots of their own design. The student present their engineering solution project, discuss their robot designs, and participate in a teamwork exercise for judges. Then the teams compete with their robots in complete missions, achieving points for each mission. The theme for the 2017-2018 competition season was Hydro-dynamics.

Muff Lyons is bringing a cake on Sunday to celebrate the hard work these kids did get to the state competition level. There will be pizza, too.

St. David's Folks Attend Women's March in Asheville

Betsy Swift, Jane Coburn, and Mary Ellen Griffin are pictured; Lillian Pearson was there, also.



Join the Freedom Riders to the Moral March on Raleigh



HISTORIC THOUSANDS
ON JONES STREET (HKOJ)
is a annual gathering of progressive
forces to counter the irrational and
backward agenda of the current
North Carolina General Assembly

**Saturday
February 10
2018**

- Bus leaves 3 AM from the Jackson County Justice Center parking lot, in Sylva.
- Stops at Westgate parking area in Asheville, at 4 AM.
- Returns same evening.



\$50 roundtrip
Scholarship money available.

For more information call the Jackson County Branch of the NAACP, 828-631-3447, or email info@canarycoalition.org

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.](#)

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 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.

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

interimvmsherer@gmail.com

Mailing address: PO Box 152, Cullowhee, NC 28723

Diocesan Links:

[Diocese of Western North Carolina](#)

The Rt. Rev. José A. McLoughlin,
Bishop

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www.lakelogan.org