

The Coracle

St Davids Cullowhee



July 8, 2012

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	Jul 7	Monthly Mindfulness 10 am Canterbury House
Sun	Jul 8	6 th Sunday after Pentecost
Sun	Jul 15	7 th Sunday after Pentecost, Godly Play
Sun	Jul 22	8 th Sunday after Pentecost
Sun	Jul 29	9 th Sunday after Pentecost
Sat	Aug 4	Monthly Mindfulness 10 am Canterbury House
Sun	Aug 5	10 th Sunday after Pentecost
Sun	Aug 12	11 th Sunday after Pentecost
Sun	Aug 19	12 th Sunday after Pentecost, Godly Play
Sat	Aug 25	Yoga Workshop with Chad
Sun	Aug 26	13 th Sunday after Pentecost
Sun	Sep 2	14 th Sunday after Pentecost

Serving this Sunday Holy Eucharist

Reader: BJ Wanlund
Chalice: Whoever the Lord calls
Coffee Hour: Eric & Norma Hendrix
Organist: Brad Martin

Readings: [Ezekiel 2:1-5](#), [Psalm 123](#)
[2 Corinthians 12:2-10](#), [Mark 6:1-13](#)

Serving during July

Bread: John Slater
Flowers: Chad Hallyburton
Linen: Susan Rush
Eucharist: Ann Hallyburton &
Barb Manke

We collect food for United Christian Ministries on an ongoing basis. Non-perishable food may be placed in the basket at the back of the church. All food is appreciated, but things such as rice and beans (dried or canned) are more useful to the groups providing meals to the needy than are more highly processed foods. Please keep in mind the basket at the back of the church, a place where we can share our bounty with others in need through the food program of United Christian Ministries.

Canterbury House Activities

Mondays 7:25 am Mindfulness Meditation
Mondays 9-10:30 am Chad's yoga
First Saturdays 10 am Monthly Mindfulness
Thursdays 5:30 pm Alcoholics Anonymous
Fridays 5:30 pm U-Club

The Gospel

Mark 6:1-13

Jesus left that place and came to his hometown, and his disciples followed him. On the sabbath he began to teach in the synagogue, and many who heard him were astounded. They said, "Where did this man get all this? What is this wisdom that has been given to him? What deeds of power are being done by his hands! Is not this the carpenter, the son of Mary and brother of James and Joses and Judas and Simon, and are not his sisters here with us?" And they took offense at him. Then Jesus said to them, "Prophets are not without honor, except in their hometown, and among their own kin, and in their own house." And he could do no deed of power there, except that he laid his hands on a few sick people and cured them. And he was amazed at their unbelief.

Then he went about among the villages teaching. He called the twelve and began to send them out two by two, and gave them authority over the unclean spirits. He ordered them to take nothing for their journey except a staff; no bread, no bag, no money in their belts; but to wear sandals and not to put on two tunics. He said to them, "Wherever you enter a house, stay there until you leave the place. If any place will not welcome you and they refuse to hear you, as you leave, shake off the dust that is on your feet as a testimony

against them." So they went out and proclaimed that all should repent. They cast out many demons, and anointed with oil many who were sick and cured them.

Gracious Space

The building committee met again this week with contractor and architect to continue the painstaking process of narrowing in on the exact details of the building and its price. Needless to say, complying with the building code exacts a high price, but negotiations are ongoing and we continue to be optimistic and excited.

One suggestion that was offered was that there will be concrete and other debris once demolition of the Parish Hall begins. If anyone has a space that needs fill, it would be less expensive to haul it there rather than pay to have it put into the landfill.

Home For Sale

The church property that we call the rectory, 137 S. Country Club Drive in Forest Hills, is listed for sale with Cullowhee Real Estate agent Norman West. A great location close to campus, it is priced to sell as a fixer-upper at \$165,000. This is its [MLS listing](#). If you know of anyone who might be interested, please have them contact Norman West at 293-5678 or normanwest@frontier.com.



Website Update

From time to time, things need to be updated on the website to keep it current. Maggie is once again collecting photos for the pictorial directory and will gladly take your picture at church on Sunday. This would include both the newer folks and anyone who wishes to have their picture redone. You can also send your own picture to magbowles@gmail.com. If there are any corrections needed to your profile information, you can make them yourself by logging into the website or you may send the information to Maggie, and she will update it. If you have never logged in before, you can easily join and have access to a great deal more information than is available on the public pages, including the member directory and pictorial directory. Also available are documents such as vestry minutes, various policies, and miscellaneous useful information. And while you are there, if you notice anything that is out-of-date or needs to be corrected, please let Maggie know so she can fix it.

If you use Google calendar and would like to add the St. David's event calendar to your displayed calendars, find the box that says "add a friend's calendar" under "other calendars" and paste this link into it: https://www.google.com/calendar/embed?src=vktfjyhpn9mbb8e12k65fo07k%40group.calendar.google.com&ctz=America/New_York

Parish News & Notes

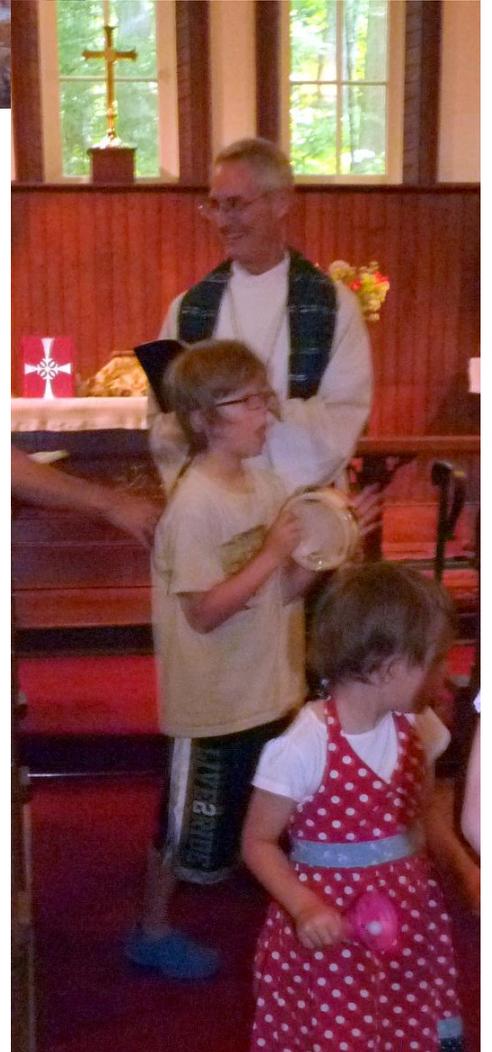
Birthday
July 14 **Monty Ross**

Anniversaries
July 14 **Kelley & Brian Dinkelmeyer, Elizabeth & Jim Addison**



Marilyn Jody had her two brothers visiting last week to kick off an 80 day celebration of her 80th birthday!

The Children of St. David's sang *I'll Fly Away* during church last Sunday. They had all participated in Vacation Bible School in conjunction with Cullowhee Methodist during the week.



Meditation Opportunity at St. David's

Monday Mindfulness: 7:25-8:30 am in the library of the Canterbury House. Our practice is Contemplation of Wise Texts (Lectio), Sitting Meditation, and Informal Dialogue.

Other Meditation Opportunities

Living Mindfully, Not Mindlessly--Mindfulness Meditation: Wednesdays at 12:30 pm WCU Health & Counseling Center, 225 Bird Building, Pillow Room. For details, call 227-7469 and ask for Michelle or go to www.facebook.com/wcumindfulness. To view a flyer, [please click here](#).

The **Tuesday Meditation Group** meets in the undercroft at St. John's Episcopal Church in downtown Sylva on the **2nd & 4th Tuesdays at noon**. 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](#)

Newsletter editor: Maggie Bowles: magbowles@st-davids.org

Church phone # and email: 354-0166 stdavids18@st-davids.org

Mailing address: PO Box 152, Cullowhee, NC

Good People of St. David's
Where are you?
What are you doing?
GPS

Everyone is encouraged to share their interesting tidbits--just send a quick email message to magbowles@gmail.com and if you possibly can, include a picture.

There is space available for a 25 day trip through the West that will cover twenty states and a number of National Parks. This is a bus tour that offers two seats per person at a cost of \$3,095 double or \$3,795 single. Contact Brenda Elliott, Tour Escort, Carson Tours, 2860 Old Murphy Road, Franklin, NC 28734, [828-524-8796](tel:828-524-8796) or [828-342-1511](tel:828-342-1511)(cell).

Celebrating the Fourth of July

Hal Farwell, Nancy Joyner, Marilyn Jody, Gracia Slater and Joanne Cleary are shown enjoying a picnic at Nancy's home. Not pictured is the photographer, John Slater. This counts towards Jody's 80 days of celebrating.

June & Newt Smith celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on June 30 with a very lively party at their home in Little Canada.





Ordinary Mindfulness

By Michael Hudson

WEDNESDAY, JULY 4, 2012

Active Awareness: Writing on the Heart

Many people think that other people meditate in order to find inner peace, to be calm. And that's true. But it's not all--and it sounds too passive. A lot of people meditate in order to bring peace, too--a very, very active process.

I love the story of Jesus and "The Woman Caught in Adultery." It's a wonderful glimpse into active awareness.

Many of you know the story--but don't let that stop you from hearing for the first time!

Jesus is doing his thing, moving from town to town, trying to show people what the realm, the territory of God looks like by actually embodying that realm wherever he is.

But he's unorthodox--stretches accepted mores--breaks some of the rules that religious leaders consider inviolate--and just generally gets up the noses of by-the-book people. And these by-the-book people want to show others just how unorthodox and unacceptable Jesus really is.

So they 'catch' a woman in the act of adultery, drag her out of her house, bring her to where Jesus is teaching, drop her between Jesus and his 'audience' and then say--"Teacher, we just caught this woman *committing* adultery. The Law says she must be stoned. What do you say?"

So...here's a moment for Active Awareness. It's a moment for us to consider and savor how Jesus worked with hard stuff. It's a put up or shut up kind of moment. A so very public opportunity for Jesus to show how the realm of God works--how love gets embodied wisely and effectively in the world.

Jesus doesn't answer at first. This seems to me as important as anything in this story. He doesn't answer. He moves instead into a Sacred Pause. He literally doodles in the dirt.

The prophet Jeremiah said that a time would come when we would know God's way not from reading the law carved in stone but from actually experiencing God's finger writing on our hearts. I think this is what Jesus is inviting, expecting, and pausing to create.

I imagine him exhaling, *whew*, and thinking something along the lines of "Holy crap.

Then I imagine him taking stock. A woman's life is at stake, this woman's life who's kneeling here in front of me in the same dirt I'm writing on.

Wisdom itself is at stake--how *these* people in *this* town will come to understand God's way.

I think Jesus has come to trust the process of God's finger writing on his heart. I like to think that Jesus' finger writing in the dirt is a kind of parallel expression of this trust--as well as a very practical process: ALLOWING TIME for 'wisdom' to happen. Allowing space for the prayer "What might I say and do?" to be answered. Allowing time for God's finger to write on his heart.

In this space there is the kind of peace that people associate with contemplation. Jesus regularly took retreats in quiet places. He's taking one now, in this moment. The quiet place is a moment of 'the peace that passes understanding.' It's a place reached by pausing. Because he's found it often before alone and in unhurried ways, it can happen now in a crowd, under pressure, and in the time it takes to doodle in the dirt.

As Jesus returns to the outer reality, he says (rather memorably, don't you think?) "Let those who've never sinned throw the first stones."

Wonderfully, there's another pause. God's finger is apparently writing on other hearts. Then there's the sound of stones falling to the ground, and people walking away. And then the long, grateful sigh of one woman.

Every day finds us in places where love might be embodied wisely right where we are. Often in ways we don't yet know how to embody. We'll sense possibility--and then perplexity. This glimpse of possibility and this sense of perplexity can be ignored or welcomed. To welcome it all we need do is to invoke a Sacred Pause. To ask, to wait, to hope, to trust, to experiment with allowing God's finger to write on our hearts.

In my experience, the 'Way' is never as clear in me as it was for Jesus--yet it's always more than it would have been if I hadn't given it a try.

The connection between the peace we find in contemplative practices and the peace we intend to share in the workaday world is potent. The world is often dropping stuff in front of us and saying in one way and another, "This is just how it is!" And the world is right. It *is* how it usually is.

But it's not how it might be. And sometimes can be.