

The Coracle

St Davids Cullowhee



Dec 17, 2017

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	Dec 16	Greening of the Church 10 am-noon
Sun	Dec 17	Advent 3 Children's Christmas Pageant, Michael's birthday and farewell celebration
Tue	Dec 19	Accessible Mindfulness 10 am
Wed	Dec 20	Advent Service 5:30 pm (Steve Steinbrueck)
Sun	Dec 24	Advent 4, Christmas Eve Service 8:30 pm
Mon	Dec 25	Christmas Day No service
Sun	Dec 31	1 st Sunday after Christmas, NO CHURCH SERVICE AND NO SOUP SUPPER Special invitation to LESSONS AND CAROLS at St. John's, Sylva 11 am
Tue	Jan 2	Accessible Mindfulness 10 am
Sat	Jan 6	Monthly Mindfulness 10 am
Sun	Jan 7	Epiphany 1 Bishop José Celebrates Church service will be at 11:30 am

Childcare is available during the church service.

An Important Message from the Treasurer

This is a reminder that with no church service on December 31st, Christmas Eve will be the last chance to put a 2017 pledge payment in the plate. If you plan to mail your check, the envelope must be postmarked no later than December 30th to get credit for your 2017 taxes. Thanks to all for your ongoing support of the parish!

And One from the Altar Guild

Contributions are needed for poinsettias to grace the front window of the Church for the December 17th and Christmas Eve services. If you would like to make a donation in memory of a loved one or in thanksgiving, please write a check for any amount you wish and on the memo line indicate that it is for Christmas Flowers. You can mail the check or just hand it to Margot. Also, give her the name(s) of the person or people you would like to honor

And From the Stewardship Chairman, Betsy Swift

With the Christmas Holy Days and the year's end fast approaching, may I gently remind you to consider your pledge to St. David's for 2018? If you have not done so already, now is the time!

It is a great help to our budget committee to have real data about anticipated income before beginning their work, so please send your pledge as soon as possible—you can mail it in, drop it in the alms basin on Sunday, or even email Margot with the amount (mtwilcox@frontier.com.) Thank you!

Serving this Sunday

Chalice: Newt Smith

Reader: June Smith

Coffee: ALL

Music: Nan Watkins

Music for Advent Services:

Nan Watkins

Readings: [Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11](#),

[1 Thessalonians 5:16-24](#),

[John 1:6-8,19-28](#), [Psalm 126](#)

Serving during December

Bread: John Slater

Flowers: Judy Robinson

Poinsettias: Linda Kinnear

Linen: Claire Marsh

Eucharist: Gracia Slater &

Margot Wilcox

Greeters: Joan Byrd &

George Rector

Serving during January

Bread: Jane Coburn

Flowers: Margot Wilcox

Linen: Faye Jacobson

Eucharist: Gracia Slater &

Margot Wilcox

Greeters: Jake Jacobson &

Muff Lyons

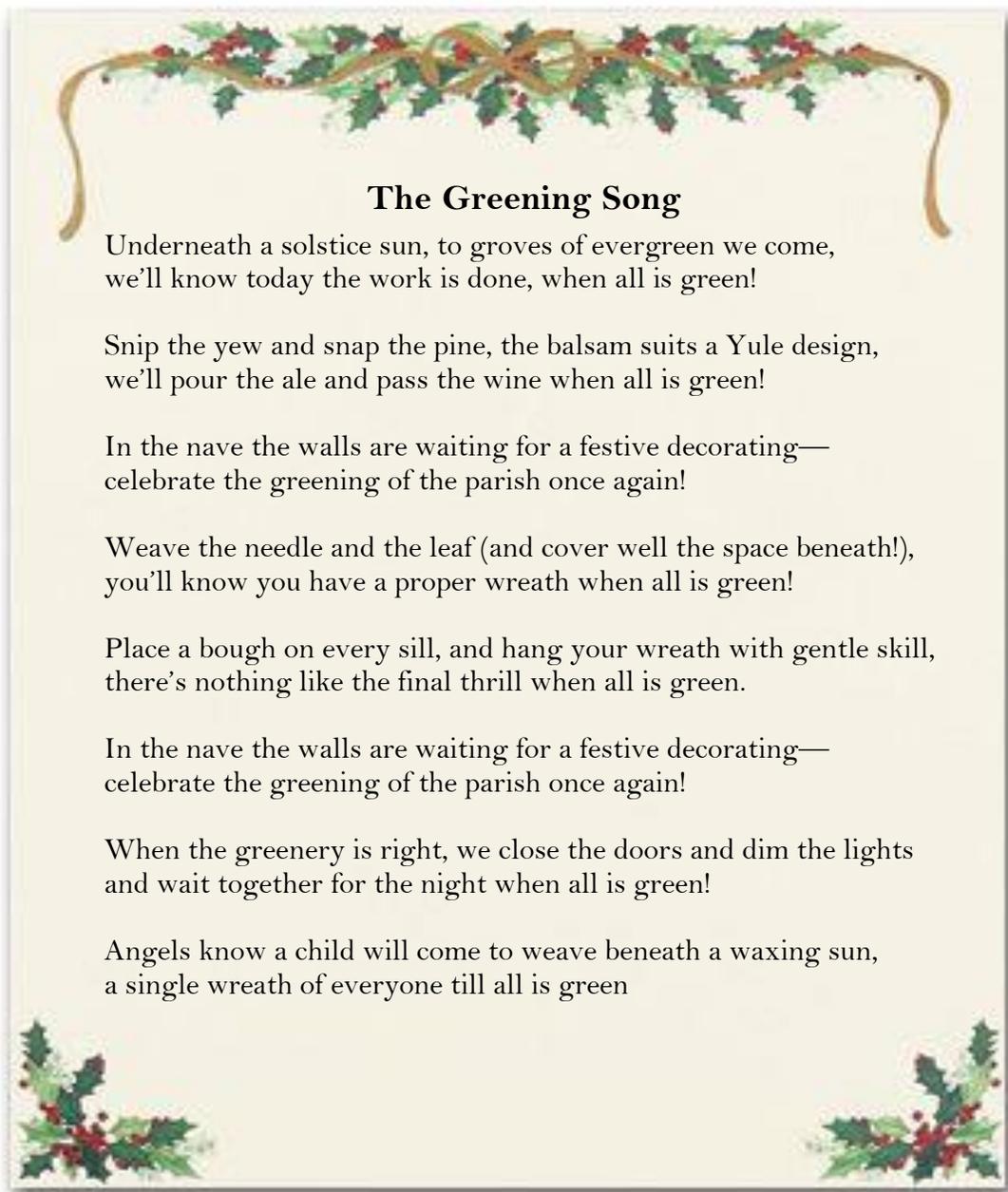
Please Join Us for the Greening of the Church

Saturday December 16th 10 am

This coming Saturday, we will gather in the parish hall to make wreaths for the church for Christmas. If you've never done this before, never fear -- no prior experience needed. And you'll be missing a good time if you don't come! Christmas carols playing on someone's device, the aromas of fresh cut greens and June's Russian tea simmering, the pleasures of working together on a fun job, maybe some cookies or other munchies to go with the tea—all combine to make a delightful morning.

Those of you who have access to evergreen boughs (white pine, yew, boxwood, cedar, juniper, holly, magnolia—not hemlock!), please bring as much as you can, as well as nandina or sumac berries, princess tree or magnolia seed pods. Also, please bring your own clippers! Greenery brought before Saturday morning should be piled on the porch.

Surely, Michael will lead us one last time in singing the Greening Song!



Olive Oil Will available for pick up Saturday morning and also on Sunday.

Sunday, December 17th, 2017

Beginning at 11 am

Holy Eucharist

Children's Christmas Pageant

Brunch Celebrating Michael's Birthday and Pending Retirement

The Gospel

John 1:6-8,19-28

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light.

This is the testimony given by John when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, "Who are you?" He confessed and did not deny it, but confessed, "I am not the Messiah." And they asked him, "What then? Are you Elijah?" He said, "I am not." "Are you the prophet?" He answered, "No." Then they said to him, "Who are you? Let us have an answer for those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?" He said, "I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness, 'Make straight the way of the Lord,'" as the prophet Isaiah said. Now they had been sent from the Pharisees. They asked him, "Why then are you baptizing if you are neither the Messiah, nor Elijah, nor the prophet?" John answered them, "I baptize with water. Among you stands one whom you do not know, the one who is coming after me; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandal." This took place in Bethany across the Jordan where John was baptizing.

Children's Christmas Pageant

Needed: Stars, sheep, donkeys, shepherds, wise men, angels and more! Actors are needed. Any children ages 3 months to teens are welcome to join us. We have costumes set to go. Please contact Johanna jprice@email.wcu.edu, Kelley kdinkelmeyer@email.wcu.edu, or Wesley wesleysatterwhite@hotmail.com if you are available and would like to be a part of this fun tradition at St. David's.



Celebration and Farewell

Although Michael's final service will be on Christmas Eve, we will have a special celebration and farewell to him and Barbara at a coffee hour brunch this Sunday morning—breakfast casseroles, fruit, cinnamon rolls, sausage biscuits, and a birthday cake.

Final Advent Service for 2017

Wednesday, December 20th at 5:30 pm, Steve Steinbrueck will speak at our final Advent Service for this year. Music will be provided by Nan Watkins on organ and Caroline Ulrich on flute.

Yoga for the Winter Solstice

On Thursday, December 21st, Chad Hallyburton is offering two special yoga sessions in the Parish Hall: a morning session, **Mid-Winter Sun Salutes & Breakfast**, 6:45-7:30 am and an evening session, **Mid-Winter Meditation & Guided Relaxation**, 6:45-7:45 pm. For more information and to register, contact Chad Hallyburton at centeringyoganc.com.



Christmas Eve Service

8:30 pm

A Service of Lessons and Carols with Holy Eucharist

This will be Michael's final service before he retires.

There is no service on the morning of December 24th

There is no service on Christmas Day

New Years' Eve

There will not be a regular Sunday service on Sunday, New Year's Eve day. We have been invited to St. John's in Sylva for a Lessons & Carols service with Holy Eucharist beginning at 11 am.

There is no Soup Supper in December as it would fall on New Year's Eve!

January 7th, 2018

The first Sunday in January, Bishop José will visit and lead our first service of the new year. To better accommodate his travel schedule, the service will be at 11:30 am.



A Message from the Senior Warden

By Steve Steinbrueck

The Vestry continues to be hard at work selecting an Interim Rector and planning for 2018. Although we're all anxious, it's important to note that no formal announcement can be made until final interviews are complete, agreements are reached, the Bishop's blessing is obtained, and Michael has left. We hope to have news very early in the new year. We will also hold a congregational meeting in January to present the budget and elect a new Vestry member.

Please feel free to call ([828.507.8816](tel:828.507.8816)) or email (stevesteinbrueck@gmail.com) if you have questions, and be sure to read the Coracle, which is always available on the webpage (<http://www.st-davids.org/>).

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 or speak to her in church if you interested.

Greeters Welcome

Jake Jacobson is getting together the schedule for greeters for 2018. He will be contacting those who have done this in the past but wants to extend a special welcome to anyone who would like to take a turn at doing this for a month in 2018. Just let him know if you are interested: thejakes@frontier.com

Parish News & Notes

Birthdays

Dec 18 **Nan Watkins, Ken Perry,**

Dec 24 **Elena Reynolds**

Anniversaries

Dec 19 **Paul & Melba Cooper,**

Jim Kasprzak & Mary Ann Nixon

Condolences to Kathy and Vance Davidson and their family. Kathy's mother passed away on Wednesday.

Hal Farwell continues to be cared for at Skyland Care Center in Sylva and appreciates having visitors anytime.



Sylva Garden Club Pecan Sale

The pecans are available at the Jackson County Public Library Atrium on the following dates/times: November 30, December 7, 11, 14, 18 and 21 from 10 am-1 pm. Proceeds go to Sylva beatification projects and scholarships.

The following merchants also have them available: City Lights Bookstore, Country Road Farms, Ray's Florist.

Mammoth Halves	16 oz.	\$12
Mammoth Halves	12 oz.	\$10
Dark Chocolate	12 oz.	\$10
Chocolate Covered	12 oz.	\$10
Pecan Caramel Clusters	12 oz.	\$10

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

Mindfulness Meditation: Mondays 7:25-8:30 am in the Parish Hall. Our practice is Contemplation of Wise Texts (Lectio), Sitting Meditation, and Informal Dialogue.

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.

Regular Activities	Mondays 7:25 am	Mindfulness Meditation
	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

St. David's Links and Contact Information:

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

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[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